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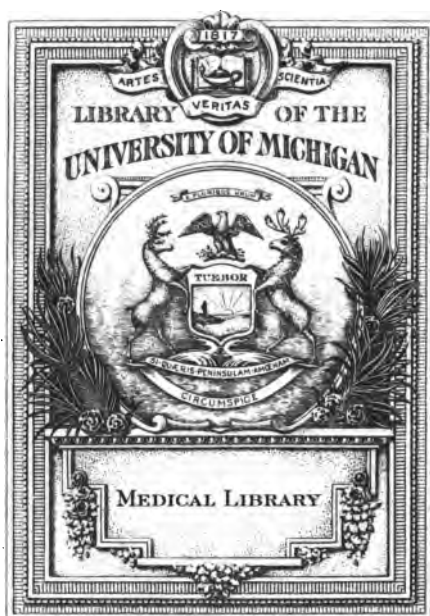
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LEHIGH VALLEY MEDICAL MAGAZINE.

THE JOURNAL

—OF—

THE LEHIGH VALLEY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

EDITORS AND MANAGERS:

CHARLES MCINTIRE, M.D.,
Easton, Pa.

WILLIAM P. WALKER, M.D.,
South Bethlehem, Pa.

ASSOCIATE EDITORS:

(APPOINTED BY THE MEDICAL SOCIETIES MAKING THE MAGAZINE
THEIR OFFICIAL ORGAN.)

BUCKS COUNTY, A. F. MYERS, M.D.,

CARBON COUNTY, J. B. TWEEDELE, M.D.,

HUNTERDON COUNTY, G. N. BEST, M.D.,

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, F. H. ERWIN, M.D.,

SCHUYLKILL COUNTY, J. W. COBLE, M.D.

PUBLISHING COMMITTEE:

W. L. ESTES, M.D.

E. M. GREEN, M.D.

CHARLES MCINTIRE, M.D.

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(Editor and Manager.)

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LEHIGH COUNTY, P. L. REICHARD, M.D.,
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, [EDITOR],
SCHUYLKILL COUNTY, J. W. COBLE, M.D.

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LEHIGH VALLEY MEDICAL MAGAZINE.

Vol. IX.

JANUARY, 1898.

No. 1.

PAPER.

THE RECORD OF A YEAR.¹

By A. F. BRONSON, M.D., Girardville, Pa.

Mr. President and Members of the Schuylkill County Medical Society :

It devolves upon me as a duty imposed by the constitution of this society to deliver a valedictory address upon the expiration of my term as its presiding officer.

It is not my intention, at this time, to weary you by a lengthy address. Indeed, if it can boast of no other redeeming feature it will at least deserve your kind consideration for its brevity.

I consider it no mean honor to have been called upon to preside over the meetings of a body of men and women such as compose the Schuylkill County Medical Society.

Its membership has included men who have served with honor and distinction in the military ranks of the nation. It has included men of intelligence, education, and ability. It has more than once been honored by having a president of the State Medical Society chosen from its number.

I have not selected any scientific theme for presentation to-day but shall confine myself to matters pertaining directly to the interests of the society in the hope of saying something to stimulate, in some degree, a greater interest in the work of the society and also in the allied societies,—the Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania and the American Medical Association.

Sufficient has been said and written of late concerning the value of association, with the consequent interchange of thought and experience among medical men, to convince the most skeptical. Indeed such association seems almost a necessity

¹ Address of retiring president read before the Schuylkill County Medical Society, at Pottsville, Pa., Jan. 4, 1898.

in keeping abreast of the advances which are making such rapid strides at present toward a more positive and scientific basis for the practice of medicine. Yet in spite of these facts there are members who seldom put in an appearance at the society save at the annual meeting, and some not even then. Of course it is a pleasure to see their faces at least once a year, but how much greater the benefit both to the society and to themselves from a more frequent attendance !

Insurance companies and others seeking medical examiners almost invariably inquire of the applicant for position—"Of what medical societies are you a member?" and they attach much importance to the reply to that question. One's standing in the profession is often gauged by the same means. Why then are not all members of the county, state, and national societies ? It is an easy matter for a member of a county society to become a member of the state society by getting himself elected and attending, as a delegate, one of the sessions of the state society. He is thereafter a permanent member of the state society without the payment of any dues, so long as he remains in good standing in his county society. It is a still easier matter to become a member of the American Medical Association. He can either be sent as a delegate attending one of its sessions, or send a certificate of his standing signed by the president and secretary of his county society together with his annual subscription of five dollars, which he pays in either case, and he becomes a member entitled to all the privileges of the association and in addition a weekly medical journal which is fully worth the amount paid for membership, containing the papers and discussions presented at the meeting of the association together with other matter of much value. It has been my privilege to attend some of the sessions of the State Medical Society and also of the American Medical Association and their value can scarcely be overestimated.

It is a matter worthy of note that membership in a county society is essential as a stepping stone to membership in either of the other two.

I think there are too many outside medical associations, if I may so term them, and that if more of the thought, interest, and

support were concentrated upon our county, state, and national associations much better results would be obtained.

It occurred to me that it would not be out of place to present a brief review of the work done by our society during the past year. The results have not been such as I anticipated on taking the chair, but I can measurably clear my own skirts when I state that I have, at no little inconvenience to myself sometimes, attended every meeting during the year. This I believe to be the duty of the presiding officer if such be in the bounds of possibility.

The first meeting of the year was held at Tumbling Run Hotel. It was, I think, the smallest annual meeting in point of numbers since I have been a member of the society, there being but 22 members present. The address of Dr. A. P. Carr, the retiring president, on "The Nobleness of the Medical Profession" teemed with exalted sentiment and was worthy a larger audience. The annual election of officers resulted as follows:

President, A. F. Bronson, M.D., of Girardville.
 Vice-President, H. C. Bowman, M.D., of Mahanoy City.
 Secretary, J. W. Coble, M.D., of Tamaqua.
 Treasurer, David Taggart, M.D., of Frackville.
 Censor, G. H. Halberstadt, M.D., of Pottsville.

The banquet that followed was enlivened by witty toasts and was a pronounced success.

At the February meeting there were fifteen present. A practical paper was presented on "Constipation" by Dr. Maud Coble, of Tamaqua, followed by one on "Massage" by Miss Rose Moyer, of Pottsville. This paper was kindly prepared by invitation and was received with much appreciation by the physicians present, showing much interest in this most useful therapeutic measure. Dr. Wendell Reber, resigned his membership on account of moving to Philadelphia and a withdrawal certificate was granted him.

The March meeting was the smallest of the year only eight being present. It was held in Pottsville. Only one member was present from that town. The absence of the others may be explained by the fact that that one had a paper to present—that and the difficulty of reaching the place of meeting on account of the

inclemency of the weather. However Dr. Seibert's paper on "Eye Symptoms as Seen in General Disease" was worth listening to by every practitioner whether specialist or not. Dr. J. C. Biddle, Superintendent of Fountain Springs Hospital, exhibited an immense mass of gangrenous omentum which he had removed from a scrotal hernia, and at the following meeting presented the patient, cured. The thanks of the society are due to a member who takes sufficient interest to bring an instructive case to a meeting of the society defraying the expenses from his own pocket. Dr. A. R. Harding, of Port Clinton, was admitted to the society. Although this meeting was the smallest it was by no means the least interesting.

In April the society again met in Pottsville, the attendance numbering 15. Dr. C. M. Niesley, of Hazleton, and Dr. W. J. Monaghan, of Girardville, were admitted to membership. Dr. J. Arthur Jones, of Mahanoy City, resigned on account of moving to Ohio. Dr. P. Hermany, of Mahanoy City, read an excellent paper on "Diphtheria" which called forth much discussion particularly upon the serum treatment. Dr. S. H. Brady of Lost Creek reported using it extensively without a loss in cases which he had been able to see the first day. Dr. G. H. Halberstadt exhibited some interesting skiagraphs.

At the May meeting at Mahanoy City 19 were present. Dr. Victor T. Roth, of Pottsville, was received into the society. Dr. B. S. Pollak, of Pottsville, read a carefully prepared paper on "Eclampsia" and Dr. Brendle presented a case of spina bifida.

Shenandoah had the honor of the June session, the next largest of the year, 23 being present. Dr. Joseph P. Morris of St. Clair, was received into membership. Dr. David Taggart, of Frackville, read an able paper on "Abortion," making some well-deserved comments regarding those physicians and others who practise the nefarious business illegitimately.

The banner meeting of the year was at Tumbling Run Hotel in July, 25 members being present besides a number of visitors including several ladies.

It appears to be a notable fact that a larger number of physicians are able to leave their pressing engagements when there is a dinner on the programme than at any other time; however, it

is in all probability merely a coincidence. Besides the attraction of the very excellent dinner arranged by the committee in charge, we were so fortunate as to have with us Dr. S. Solis Cohen, of Philadelphia, who gave us a most interesting and valuable lecture on "Cardiac Medicaments," including the technique of the Schott method of treatment. Drs. K. R. Cleaver and W. H. Bucher were admitted to membership. Dr. C. M. Rickert, of Harrisburg, resigned his membership.

In August, by some strange chance, the society found itself up in the city of the clouds, called Frackville. 19 of the stoutest hearts made the journey thither and, so far as the writer is informed, all reached their homes again in safety. Dr. Paul Dunn, of Mahanoy City, was received. Dr. J. S. Swaving, of Pottsville, read a paper entitled "A Case of Fibro-Myomata—Operation, Castration, Recovery."

Fifteen members convened at the beautiful borough of Girardville in September and listened to Dr. W. T. Williams, of Mount Carmel, on the important subject of "Fractures of the Elbow-Joint"; it was carefully prepared and elicited much discussion. Dr. W. L. C. Forrester, of Girardville, exhibited an interesting case of acute hydrocephalus in an infant.

In October the good people of Tamaqua were thrown into a state of trepidation by the sudden appearance in their midst of 17 medicine men, a calamity which had not been experienced by them for a long period of years. Dr. G. M. Hamilton, of Shenandoah, could not be present, but his paper on "Treatment of Burns," was read by Dr. Taggart in his well-known rhetorical style. An original method of treatment was advocated, the principal feature of which was the application of a layer of antiseptic gauze next the burned surface, and this covered with an ointment spread on Canton flannel.

Dr. Maud Coble exhibited a case of spina bifida and acute hydrocephalus.

November finds us back at winter quarters at Pottsville, 15 strong. Dr. A. B. Sherman failed to put in an appearance with his paper, sending as his excuse that it was election-day.

Dr. G. H. Halberstadt reported a case of a safety-pin lodged in the esophagus of a child, pointing downwards, which he

located by means of the Roentgen rays and extracted, after much difficulty, with forceps; impromptu discussions on various subjects took place and the meeting turned out to be an interesting one.

The last meeting of the year was held in the same place and was the next smallest in point of attendance, nine only being present.

Dr. Sherman again failed to present his paper, sending no explanation. Dr. Neisley resigned on account of moving out of the state. Official announcement was made of the death of our highly esteemed member, Dr. G. F. Matter, of Shenandoah, and the Committee on Necrology was instructed to draft suitable resolutions.

More meetings were held during the past year than any previous year in the history of the society, being 12 in number. The average attendance was a fraction over 14. Eight physicians have been admitted to membership, four have withdrawn, and one has died and, I regret to add, five have been dropped from the roll for non-payment of dues, leaving a present membership of 81.

The censors have been prompt in attending to their duties of reporting upon candidates for admission, a very important matter of which there had been much complaint in previous years. The secretary has also been prompt and faithful in the discharge of his duties.

Local rivalries, petty jealousies, and infractions of the code of medical ethics contribute more to engendering a spirit of antagonism among members of the profession than all other causes and thereby militate against the interests of any association.

Let us be above these littlenesses. Let us be considerate of one another. Let us join hands in a broad-minded spirit as seekers together after knowledge and for the alleviation of suffering humanity.

AMONG THE SOCIETIES.

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY.¹

The December meeting was held at Easton, on the 17th, the following members being present: Drs. Apple, Arndt, C. E. Beck, Dudley, Evans, Frace, Fretz, Green, Greenwald, Hunt, D. H. Keller, J. C. Keller, Kotz, Laciari, McIlhaney, McIntire, Michler, Moore, Reagan, Schnabel, Amos Seip, Shimer, and Zulick.

The unclaimed transactions of the state society were ordered to be sold at auction at the annual meeting.

The first paper of the day was read by Dr. Mary B. Greenwald, of Stroudsburg, on "Pneumonia with the History of an Unusual Case."

After reviewing the later theories as to the causation of pneumonia, more particularly the presence of the diplococcus of Friedlander, she illustrated the contagiousness of the disease by the history of a family where a mother, son, and daughter were successively attacked. The mode of onset in the case of the mother was peculiar. She was taken suddenly ill in the night with violent pain in the abdomen, vomiting, and fever. The disease for three days seemed almost typical of appendicitis, except that the pain was not localized at McBurney's point, though the patient said it had originally been most intense there. The point of greatest intensity of pain gradually shifted until it was located in the left hypochondriac region. An examination of the chest on that side revealed a beginning lobar pneumonia, and the disease from that time ran a typical course terminating by crisis the ninth day after the pneumonia was diagnosed.

The different methods of treatment were also spoken of, especially the use of cold in the form of ice-bags and cold-packs to the chest. Reference was made to the very gratifying results obtained by the latter method.

The serum treatment is receiving some attention since the discovery of the diplococcus and may, in time, come into general use.

Among the various drugs used in the treatment of this disease, the appropriateness of the use of digitalis is questioned by very many. As pneumonia is a self-limited disease, it seems to be the general opinion of authorities on the subject, to abandon the use of ammonium chlorid or carbonate and drugs of that class, and direct the attention to sustaining the vitality of the patient.

The paper was discussed by Dr. Amos Seip, who reverted to the older methods of treating pneumonia, more especially vene-

¹ Official report.

section, and the apparently greater success then than now. He gave his personal experience as to the relief obtained by the use of the lancet. By Dr. McIntire, who alluded to the championing of the lancet by the late Dr. Hiram Corson, of Montgomery County. By Dr. Laciari, who was of the opinion that not every case of pneumonia was due to the presence of the pneumococcus; nor was every case a subject for bleeding. There were many cases where the communicability of the disease was illustrated, but in many others it is difficult or impossible to trace any relation to another case of pneumonia.

The second paper of the day was entitled "A Report of Two Cases of Mastoid Disease with Unusual Complications, with the Presentation of the Cases," which was presented by Dr. W. H. Dudley, of Easton.

Case 1. Mr. W. E. W., aged 27. Sent to the Easton Hospital on May 9, 1897. About four months previous he had an attack of grip, with a following inflammation of the middle ear with a purulent discharge. The treatment of this was neglected, and eight days previous to his admission he began to have pain and swelling in the mastoid region. Beginning four days later there were daily chills followed by fever and sweating.

When admitted, his neck was swollen from the edge of the hair to the clavicle; and from the spinal column to the anterior border of the sternomastoid muscle. The tympanic membrane was gone and there was a small amount of pus in the cavity. The temperature was 101° , pulse 90.

He was operated upon the next morning. The incision behind the ear released the pus, largely coming up from the neck. After removing the periosteum, most of the mastoid was found to be more or less softened, and easily removed with chisel and gouge; in doing this, the lateral sinus was laid bare for something more than half an inch. The attic was opened and the whole tympanic cavity was thoroughly scraped in order to remove every particle of dead bone in this region. The region of the neck was then examined and the bottom of the cavity was found to be about five and one-half inches below the opening behind the ear. Fearing the lateral sinus might be thrombosed, some blood was withdrawn by an aspirating needle, but as it was normal in appearance it was not opened. The wound was properly dressed and cared for, the treatment continuing for about 13 weeks. On September 10th examination showed a restored drum-head and normal hearing.

Case 2. Mr. P. H., aged 25. A Bohemian; was first seen at his residence on August 15, 1897. On account of linguistic difficulties it was very difficult to obtain a history of the case. The diagnosis as made out was a chronic middle ear inflammation with probable cerebral complications.

He was admitted to the hospital the next day. Examination of the eyes revealed an optic neuritis in the left eye, confirming the suspicion of brain complications. Additional efforts to secure a history through an interpreter failed through the mental stupor of the patient. The patient was prepared for the operation, the attic opened, and all thoroughly curetted, removing all dead and softened bone. The incision was then extended upwards, and at a point about three-fourths of an inch above the external auditory meatus, the skull was trephined. As the dura mater appeared healthy, it was not opened, but an aspirating needle introduced in various directions. After several trials, fluid was found when "the needle was introduced inward on a level with the opening, and backward at an angle of about 45° from a lateral plane." A little more than half an ounce was obtained, which was submitted to Dr. Kotz, who found it to contain pus cells, broken-down brain cells, blood cells, and granular matter—the usual constituents of cerebral abscesses. No attempt was made to drain the abscess.

The wounds were closed and dressed, and the condition of the patient for a while was precarious. For the next four weeks it was necessary to tie him to prevent the tearing off of his bandages; his urine and stools were passed in bed, and there was great difficulty in feeding him. After the four weeks, his mind began to improve, and he was more tractable as a patient. The improvement continued until, at present he is almost entirely well.

In discussion, Dr. Dudley, was complimented for the excellent results obtained in these cases.

The third paper was read by Dr. P. W. Frace, of Easton, on "Easton's Latest Epidemic."

Quite recently the "Triple City" has been invaded by a disease which has been prevalent to a degree that makes it epidemic. The symptoms are many and varied and by no means uniform. All ages and conditions are attacked; and a satisfactory cause has not been found. As the persons attacked use the different water supplies, this factor is eliminated. The sudden changes of temperature may be causative; the symptoms may also result from toxins generated by a variety of bacilli.

The patient is generally seized suddenly with either one or many of the several symptoms; severe cramps, vomiting, purging, dizziness, and great weakness in the limbs. The pain is of a colicky nature and chiefly confined to the abdomen; the stomach and intestines are distended and there is much gurgling; vomiting frequently precedes the diarrhea, which comes on suddenly, although it sometimes follows. The vomit consists of partly digested food, mucus, and bile. The stools, while varying much in number and character, are not as a rule accompanied with pain. They are essentially green or yellow in color, but soon become copious and watery. Patients also experience a feeling of dizziness, become very

weak and in some cases, bordered on collapse. Fever was not usually present, although sometimes the temperature ran high. The attack lasts from a few hours to several days, or even weeks.

Only one case, that of a child a few months old, is reported to have died from the disease.

The essayist illustrated the character and course of the disease by detailing the clinical history of several cases.

At this point, the society took recess for dinner. Upon reconvening, the fourth paper was read by Dr. Charles McIntire, of Easton, on "Forced Conservative Treatment of a Surgical Mastoid Case."

The paper detailed the history of a case where all operating was refused for awhile, and finally only a Wilde's incision permitted. Drainage was obtained after the incision was made, the inflammation subsided under antiseptic dressings, the man gained strength and was enabled to go to his work again.

The last paper for the day was contributed by Dr. E. D. Schnabel, of Bethlehem. It was entitled "A Few Remarks on Diphtheria."

The essayist wished to give some impressions obtained from his observations on several cases of diphtheria during the past year. When a case of diphtheria presents itself in one's practice, the doctor immediately awakens to the fact that he has a disease to fight that kills, and in a mysterious way, in spite of all that is done. The throat may show a pseudo-membrane and the patient be walking about the house. Be it a child, and there is little crying, there is a history of restless nights; the patient may have an appetite but eats little, as deglutition is difficult, even water being hard to swallow.

Examination of the throat on successive days soon shows something more than an ordinary case of tonsilitis. The membrane changes color; the pulse becomes irregular and hard to find; very little urine is passed; the child sleeps most of the time—it is not the sleep of uremia—and, after some days, cannot be aroused.

His first impression was, how poorly the ordinary practitioner is equipped to properly diagnose diphtheria early in the attack. Are the bacilli present or not; has the toxin entered the system; is the patient to recover without treatment, or to die in spite of the best treatment devised? The second thought is that the membrane is not always of a grayish tint as he had supposed. He found it fairly white until stained by the tincture of the ferric chlorid, but always thicker than the spots of follicular tonsilitis.

The third thought related to the treatment, where not only the patient but those who are of the household must be thought of. Isolation is

necessary, and the keeping the respiratory tract as clear as possible. The drugs that are indicated seem to be the tincture of ferric chlorid, mercuric chlorid, and alcohol; probably because of their bactericidal action. He saw no direct results in administering the iron mixture when there was suppression of urine; neither did alcohol stimulate the weak heart; nor did mercuric chlorid have any therapeutic action on the coagulation necrosis. On the whole the serum treatment appeared to him as the most rational and most likely to be curative.

At the conclusion of the discussion of the papers, the society adjourned to meet in Bethlehem in February.

SCHUYLKILL COUNTY.¹

G. A. R. HALL, POTTSVILLE, Jan. 4, 1898.

The annual meeting of the Schuylkill County Medical Society was held this date.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. A. F. Bronson, president.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted.

There were present Drs. Williams, Bronson, Moore, Miller, Carr, Bland, Biddle, Schlasman, Hoffman, Cleaver, Smith, G. H. Halberstadt, Taggart, Montelius, C. A. Bleiler, Lewis, Christman, Lenker, Callen, Bowman, J. W. Coble, Pollak, Gillers, Gulden, J. H. Swaving, Brendel, Morris, Lytle, Bankes, Farquhar, O'Harra, Robinhold, Sebring, Merkle, and Roth.

On motion, the report of the auditing committee was postponed until next meeting.

The Committee of Condolence on the death of Dr. Matter, reported the following resolutions:

Dr. Geo. F. Matter died in Shenandoah City, November 21, 1897, with an attack of cerebro-spinal meningitis, at the age of 57 years. Dr. Matter was born in Gratz, Dauphin Co., Pa., August 14, 1840. He entered into the service of the Union army as a soldier, and was subsequently appointed Hospital Steward to the 210th Regt., Pa. Vols. He served in the field with this command. After leaving the service, he entered the Jefferson Medical College, from which school he graduated in 1866. He located temporarily in several towns, remaining finally in Shenandoah to accept the work of Dr. Davis, who was about to locate in New Jersey. He enjoyed a large practice in this town, and shared the confidence of its people. He was prominently identified with the Meth-

¹ Official report.

odist Church, serving in his Master's vineyard with zeal and religious fervor. He is survived by his widow and four children—two sons and two daughters. His burial took place in the Odd Fellows' Cemetery, November 25th, 1897.

WHEREAS, it has pleased Almighty God to remove from our membership our late member, Dr. George F. Matter. Therefore be it

Resolved, that in the death of Dr. Matter, the Schuylkill County Society has sustained a loss keenly felt; the professional services and devotion to professional work of a zealous, enthusiastic student, in search of knowledge; of one who recognized the demands of the code; of one looking only to the relief of sickness and distress; of one who, in all the walks of life, enjoyed a consciousness of having discharged the duties that fell to his lot. That in the character of our deceased member we had a living example of religious duty and labor harmoniously blended for the welfare of those about him.

Resolved, that the Schuylkill County Medical Society send to the family of the deceased our deep sympathy in their affliction.

Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions, properly attested, be sent to the family, and a record of the same spread upon the minutes of the society.

[Signed]

D. W. BLAND,
W. T. WILLIAMS,
DAVID TAGGART,

Committee.

December, 1897.

On motion, the resolutions were adopted and ordered printed in the Pottsville and Shenandoah papers.

The following communications were read: An invitation from the Board of Managers of the Pottsville Hospital, inviting the members to visit the same during their stay in Pottsville, also to attend the graduating exercises of the Training School for Nurses, to be held at Pottsville, Jan. 25th, 1898.

Communication from Dr. J. P. Crozer Griffith, asking the members their experience in treating infantile scurvy.

A proposition from George A. Wilford was read; the same not being in due form, it was indefinitely postponed.

A communication from J. Arthur Jones, asking for a withdrawal from membership. On motion, the secretary was ordered to send him a certificate of honorable withdrawal.

The following bills were presented: LEHIGH VALLEY MEDICAL MAGAZINE, \$10.25; J. W. Coble, \$9.62; Dr. John K. Marshall, \$3.75.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing term : President, H. C. Bowman ; Vice-President, G. H. Halberstadt ; Treasurer, D. Taggart ; Secretary, J. W. Coble ; Censor, B. S. Pollak.

Drs. Bland and Carr escorted the newly elected president to the chair. The president extended his thanks for the honor conferred.

The retiring president (Dr. Bronson), addressed the members on the subject of the doings and progress of the society during the year 1897. The address was well received and called forth a vigorous applause.¹

Dr. Charles Schlasman, of Girardville, was obligated and took his seat as a member of the society.

Dr. John K. Mitchell, of Philadelphia, was introduced. He delivered an exhaustive, interesting, and instructive lecture on "Chorea." He advocates the use of arsenic hypodermatically in addition to other well-known remedies, such as cimicifuga, iron, etc. Discussion followed, which was participated in by Drs. Bland, Carr, Lenker, and Montelius.

Dr. D. W. Bland was appointed to read a paper at the next meeting, with Dr. G. H. Moore as alternate ; Drs. Carr and Bronson to open the discussion.

A vote of thanks was tendered Dr. Mitchell.

Collection of dues : W. F. Horan, \$4.00 ; G. H. Moore, \$5.00 ; C. D. Miller, \$2.00 ; B. C. Guldin, \$3.00 ; G. W. Farquhar, \$2.00 ; C. A. Bleiler, \$2.00 ; L. C. Robinhold, \$2.00 ; F. P. Lytle, \$2.00 ; J. A. Jones, \$2.00 ; H. C. Bowman, \$2.00 ; A. F. Bronson, \$2.00 ; W. J. Williams, \$2.00 ; R. S. Chrisman, \$2.00 ; D. Taggart, \$2.00 ; C. W. Bankes, \$2.00 ; K. R. Cleaver, \$2.00 ; A. P. Carr, \$2.00. Total, \$40.00.

The next meeting is to be held at Pottsville, Feb. 1, 1898. No further business the society adjourned to Zimmerman's Café, where a banquet was in waiting. The menu consisted of blue points, mock-turtle soup, roast turkey, cranberry sauce, potatoes, peas, macaroni, sweet potatoes, celery, lettuce salad, plum pudding, ice-cream, fruits, and coffee.

¹ See page 1.

Ample justice having been given to the feast, toasts were in order. The toastmaster, Dr. G. H. Halberstadt, offered the following toasts, which were responded to :

- "Schuylkill County Medical Society," Dr. D. W. Bland.
- "Orrhotherapy," Dr. Pollak.
- "Asepsis," Dr. Biddle.
- "The Country Practitioner," Dr. Lenker.
- "The City Practitioner," Dr. John K. Mitchell.
- "The Ladies," Dr. Taggart.

WEST BRANCH MEDICAL SOCIETY.

SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING, SUNBURY, PA., Jan. 11, 1898.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

A goodly number of the physicians of the "West Branch" gathered together at Sunbury despite the unpleasant weather and the place of meeting, being at the extreme end of their district. The meetings were held in the Court House ; a morning session devoted to executive business, and an afternoon session devoted largely to the reading and discussion of papers. The president was Dr. J. Y. Dale, of Lamont, whose president's address, the last of the program in the afternoon, was a charming paper on "The Country Doctor" whom he pictured in an admirable way by sketching with loving hand, the career of his preceptor : a gentlemen of the old school though none the less a physician for that.

The officers for the coming year are Dr. A. R. Hull, of Montgomery, President ; Drs. E. O. Kane, of Kane, and F. P. Ball, of Lock Haven, Vice-Presidents ; Dr. J. M. Corson, of Chatham's Run, Secretary ; and Dr. G. F. Bell, of Williamsport, Treasurer.

In addition, there is an Executive Committee including one member from each county represented in the association. The society holds but one meeting a year, and Williamsport was selected as the place for the meeting in 1898.

The members were entertained at lunch by the Sunbury physicians, and again assembled at two o'clock.

The first paper for the day was on "Common Infections ; their Diagnosis and their Prevention" by Dr. W. M. L.

Coplin, of the Jefferson Medical College. Dr. Coplin confined his attention to those infections that are pyogenic and to those cocci with the specific action of suppuration, but including the infection of tetanus and malignant edema, as these, while not common, are so intimately associated with the others. As to these, it is a matter of surprise to the student of bacteriology that they are not more common since their bacilli are among the most frequently found, especially in the examination of soils.

The essayist then proceeded to elaborate with considerable detail and apt illustration the various conditions and symptoms of assistance to determine the probable result and the character of the infection apart from the employment of laboratory methods. When the patient is first seen much can be learned from his general condition. His present general nutrition, his previous health, the presence or absence of a suppurating disease, *e.g.*, a felon or a boil; whether he has a syphilitic taint, or any other abnormal condition reducing his vital power. Then his physiognomy or temperament; and his habits, whether he is an alcoholic or overworked; his age—not judged by years but by the amount of his physical or mental fatigue—and his surroundings are all important factors. Injuries received when the patient is subject to very high or low temperature, *e.g.*, at the injury at the time of a heat-stroke is favorable to the development of infection, as well as sudden meteorologic changes.

Then too the condition of the blood is of importance as well-marked development of leucocytosis favors well. A deficiency of hemoglobin intensifies the shock. The character and condition of the wound itself should be taken into account, *e.g.*, whether clean or dirty. Butcher-shop wounds are liable to be infected wounds. Incised wounds are the most favorable for recovery without infection; punctured wounds are at the other extreme; the size of the wound has little to do with its gravity or the danger of infection.

These cover a few of the points of Dr. Coplin's excellent paper.

Dr. J. W. Sheets, of Northumberland presented a thoughtful paper on "Some Observations on Malaria in Relation to its Remote Effects." The principal thesis of this paper was that, whatever may be the nature of the parasite causing the disease,

there remains various disorders as a consequence of the attack. These are often difficult to define and often cause suspicion of a specific disease. He thought the world had been too long content with the knowledge that Bark would cure most of the cases and arsenic the rest, without making search to discover the thing itself.

"The Syphilitic Taint in Accident Surgery," was the title of the next paper, read by Dr. E. O. Kane, of Kane. His contention was an attack of syphilis was so apt to taint the blood that an accident case, which otherwise would do well, is slow to recover and accompanied by many complications. The remedy was to administer potassium iodid in all cases where syphilis is suspected from the beginning.

The fourth paper was by Dr. Charles McIntire, of Easton, on "Some Debts we Ought to Pay, and How." This was followed by the president's address, of which mention has already been made. At the conclusion of the address the association took recess until the banquet at 7.00 o'clock.

Assembling again in the cozy dining-room of the Central Hotel, the doctors discussed a toothsome menu with avidity, and then enjoyed the post-prandial efforts with hilarity.

Dr. Coplin, proved himself as ready after dinner, as before; his stories fitted, while the serious portions were worth listening to. Unfortunately so many were absent that the toast-list could not be followed out and the occasion did not afford opportunity for note-taking. As the Lehigh Valley Medical Association was honored by the toast, "Our Sister Society," the responder may be pardoned that part of his reply which is a matter of record.

"POTIN' UT TACEAS?"—*Plautus*.

'Tis a very serious, solemn thing,

As you all doubtless know,

For a bird who can but will not sing

To warble a note or two.

But if we might

Compare with that

The far worse plight

Of the silly flat,

Who cannot sing a single bar,

And yet attempts to tra-la-la.

A *rara avis* is he then,
 Who can and wills to sing,
 Be but his note that of the hen,
 Or song of crow upon the wing :
 Or, stranger yet—
 May I assume
 We ne'er forget
 Another tune
 That greets our ears, sometimes, alack !—
 The song suggestive : 'tis " quack, quack."

And if our craft are ducks and drakes,
 As men so often hint,
 We can console the heart that aches
 With this gray-matter squint
 That most of men
 In genders two,
 No matter when
 We chance them view,
 Most clearly show, in borrowed fleece,
 By word and deed, they're only geese.

But misanthropic grows my lay,
 And cynical its tune,
 " Because 'tis doggerel," do you say,
 " A baying at the moon—
 No matin psalm,
 Nor vesper song,
 That soothe and calm
 Can e'er belong
 To one whose notes the parrots shame,
 Whose lark's the thing of a coarser name."

My wayward fancy, far from free,
 Has led me far astray.
 A carrier pigeon now shall be
 My guide, and help and stay,
 For greetings bright
 To one and all,
 I bring to-night
 From great and small,
 Who own the name declared by you
 As Sister—bonded fair and true.

Whose aim, like yours, is mutual aid,
 Whose motives, too, sincere.

In serried ranks we stand arrayed—
 But do not think it queer
 That I desist
 From further praise :
 For you'll insist
 'Tis but the craze
 Of one whose efforts you'll despise
 In this attempt to advertise.

So with our wish for your good health,
 And many happy years :
 United peace, to each one wealth,
 And all that truly cheers :
 With work well done,
 And adding fame,
 Your share of fun,
 But naught of shame,
 You have my potion—or is it pill ?
 I hope its taking works no ill.

The people along the West Branch have facility for night-travel, and many who found it necessary to return by the after-midnight trains, kept themselves awake by a continuance of the feast of reason and flow of soul. Others who wished to employ "kind nature's sweet restorer" and take an early train, bade the rest good night, and the dreams of the night did not cause the pleasant impressions of the meeting to vanish from the memory in the morning.

Just as a paragraph is needed to complete this page, the MAGAZINE receives reprints from the *Eclectic Medical Journal*, all upon polemic subjects. Why is it that eclectics, homeopaths, and others, must be continually shouting the praise of their peculiar claims, and in the same breath disparage certain others ? Neither true science nor true philosophy ever seeks to make itself known in this way. This very fact affords a cause for suspicion, however unjust, of the sincerity of the advocates. And then the conjuring with that nursery boggy—"the allopaths"—as mythical a creation as can be found in the folk-lore of any people ; is it to frighten the multitude into submission to the leaders ? Unfortunately many of the physicians who are not inclined to special names are far from discreet in this matter. But any physician, by whatever name called, who exalts a name and the single thing it represents above the whole field of medical knowledge, belittles his profession, belittles medicine ; and may be influenced by sinister motives.

The Lehigh Valley Medical Magazine.

PUBLISHED BY

The Lehigh Valley Medical Association.

For the Use of the Profession within the limits of its Active Membership.

CURRENT TOPICS AND COMMENTS.

The statement of Dr. Coplin before the West Branch Medical Society, that the shock is bad when the proportion of hemoglobin is low, is but Dr. Estes' assertion that shock is acute anemia, expressed in different terms.

Dr. Bronson is right when he asserts in his address before the Schuylkill County Medical Society the possibility of an excessive number of medical societies. But, should he wish us to infer from this that there is only room for the county and state societies and the American Medical Association, he is wrong. There are societies and societies; the meeting of the West Branch Medical Society, an account of which is given elsewhere, was helpful to every county society in the limits of its membership.

The design in the make-up of the MAGAZINE is so different from most, if not all other medical journals, that it must be explained from time to time to prevent misapprehension. A medical journal projected along the usual lines is not needed in the territory covered by the MAGAZINE; if it has not a special field to cultivate, it should at once cease to inflict a profession overburdened with weakling journals. But every medical society owes it to its members and to the profession to publish the transactions of the meetings. This can be done more promptly in a journal than by annual volumes of transactions; it gives a larger circulation if a number of societies cooperate than can be secured by pamphlet transactions; and if there is cooperation in the publishing as well as in contributing the matter to be published, there is a saving of money. In addition,

there are opportunities for notices, discussion of questions of importance to the profession, news items, etc., that cannot find a place in transactions. This is the niche the MAGAZINE is attempting to fill. As each cooperating society is given the opportunity to share in all the profits, it is not undignified to solicit correspondence from other societies than those now interested, with the purpose of securing additional material to print and an increased circulation.



The modern physician can paraphrase the words of Solomon and say: Of the making of medical journals there is no end. But the *Philadelphia Medical Journal* is such a revelation as to the possibilities of weekly medical journals, that one can rejoice that such is a fact. Of the editing one had no doubt from the very first announcement; of the attractiveness and usefulness, there can be no question after examining a single number; but the one feature that gave the writer of this as much pleasure as any was the indication that at last a medical journal was published in the United States where more than one bookseller will advertise his wares. The fact speaks far more for the independence and influence of the journal than the surface-meaning of the words indicate.



The program of the Winter Meeting of the Lehigh Valley Medical Association has been mailed to the members of the Association and their friends. It is hoped the promise of good things will attract, and that a large and enthusiastic meeting will result. The date for the meeting is Tuesday, January 25th, and not the 18th, as stated in the last number.

AMONG THE PROFESSION.

The Somerset County Medical Society adopted the following preamble and resolutions at its last meeting:

WHEREAS, The members of this society, are frequently importuned to make contracts to attend private families, the members of various societies, lodges, etc., at reduced rates, Therefore be it

Resolved, That it is the expressed sentiment of this society that it is

derogatory to the dignity of the medical profession for any regular physician to subscribe to any such contract.

Resolved, That any member of this District Society who hereafter makes any contract or agreement to attend the members of any family, society, lodge, or other organization for a fixed sum shall be considered as violating the spirit of the Code of Ethics, and such violation shall be considered sufficient ground for action by this society in accordance with section 16, of the By-Laws of said society.

Resolved, That this society earnestly recommend the cancellation of any existing contracts which may be opposed to the spirit of these resolutions, and be it further

Resolved, That nothing in these resolutions shall be construed as affecting any contract of a local surgeon for any railroad company or of any township or county physician, or any position under municipal, state, or national government.

It may be both of interest and of service to our readers to mention that an American branch of the Maternité Lion of Paris has been opened in New York, where feeble and prematurely born infants can be nurtured in infant incubators, and a child otherwise doomed to an early death developed into healthy babyhood. How much of the commercial enters into the institution is not known to the management of the MAGAZINE. Quite probably additional details properly belong to the advertising pages. Should, however, any of our readers have need for such an institution, the address will be sent to them upon application. In writing, please refer to Maternité Lion, as the address is filed under that name, and it may not be in mind when the request is made.

The 15th Annual Report of the Board of Managers of the Williamsport Hospital, and the 4th Annual Report of the Training School for Nurses connected with that hospital, are on our table. 307 medical and 413 surgical cases were treated during the year; a total of 720. There were 52 deaths or 7.2 per cent.; five of the deaths were within 10 hours after admission, which, if deducted, would reduce the death-rate to a little over 6.5 per cent. The average daily number of patients was $47\frac{1}{2}$, and each patient averaged 24 days in the hospital. These figures will permit of comparison.

The training school appears to be popular and is doing good work. A class of seven were graduated at the last commence-

ment, the address to the class being delivered by Dr. W. E. Ashton, of Philadelphia.

The report, as well as the reports of the other hospitals in Northeastern Pennsylvania, that are received from time to time, give evidence of excellent, painstaking work doing. The staff of Williamsport is to be congratulated.

LITERATURE NOTES

THE ELEMENTS OF HEALTH, AN INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF HYGIENE. By Lewis C. Parkes, M.D., D.P.H., London. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston, Son & Co. 246 pp. Price \$1.25.

Most works on hygiene can be classed in one of two divisions. They are either extremely technical, or are popular expositions of the science largely diluted with (often deluded) sentiment. The sanitary monomaniac is apt to seek the people's ear. It is with a feeling of gratification that one can commend a pleasantly written book for the lay reader containing sensible views of sanitation. The only drawback is that it is written for Englishmen; for example one would not agree with the following statement:

"Open coal fires are perhaps, on the whole, the most suitable form of heating appliance for houses in this country, where we habitually enjoy, for the most part, a mild and equable winter."

The statements not applicable to us are, like the sentence quoted, easily seen and consequently not misleading. The book can be very cordially commended to any one desirous of learning the underlying principles governing the practice of sanitation. It is divided into 11 chapters treating of water, domestic refuse, air and ventilation, warming, lighting, house construction in its sanitary aspect, site and situation of house, food, physical exercise, clothing, and the care of the skin, teeth, and bowels.

TRANSACTIONS OF MEDICAL SOCIETIES.

1. Transactions of the Iowa State Medical Society. Vol. xv. 46th Annual Session. 1897 Cedar Rapids, Ia. Republican Printing Co. 1897. pp. 399.
2. Transactions of the Colorado State Medical Society. 27th Annual Meeting. Denver, June, 1897. pp. 467.
3. Proceedings of the Kansas Medical Society. 30th and 31st Annual Meetings—1896 and 1897. pp. 104.
4. Transactions of the Medical Society of New Jersey. 1897. pp. 347.

There is, of necessity, a measure of sameness in all transac-

tions, which makes it difficult to prepare a brief notice. Unless a critical comment is made upon the papers, the chances are that but a few words of kindly feeling will be expressed and the volume passed over to be reserved for reference to the time when one is making research along any line. The space at command does not permit the employment of the former method ; an attempt will be made to avoid the commonplace of the latter by noticing some novelty or peculiarity in each volume.

I. The Iowa Society publishes a series of half-tone portraits of the deceased members ; not only those who died during the previous year, but of others who died some years before. In the present day of cheapened processes, it seems a capital idea. There is a historic value in the likeness of any one ; witness the article in January *Century* on the portraits of General Wolfe.

II. Colorado indulges in a portrait, but only of the president. The interest of the profession at large in the Colorado Society is largely increased because of the forthcoming meeting of the American Medical Association at Denver, and because of the pledge made at Philadelphia by Dr. Graham that Colorado would give one-fiftieth of \$100,000 for the Rush monument fund. Many at the time thought it was an excellent game of bluff, and that it accomplished its purpose when the Nominating Committee named Denver.

"Alas for the rarity
Of Christian charity
Under the sun."

In the very same month the pledge was made the Colorado Society had its meeting and redeemed its pledge ! This speaks well for the character of the profession about Pike's Peak and gives an earnest of the reception to be given to the American Medical Association in June.

III. Kansas contents itself with the publication of the executive business of the meetings, including very few of the addresses or papers in the modest volume for the two meetings.

IV. New Jersey is one of the favored states, being able always to meet at a summer resort, usually by the seaside, and yet give variety in the places of meeting. This volume records the transactions of a meeting at Atlantic City. The next meeting will be held at Asbury Park. The action of this staid old society on

the Rush monument fund differs materially from that of its younger and more impulsive sister of the Rockies. A committee was decorously appointed to act in their discretion.

Parke, Davis & Co. have issued a handsomely illustrated pamphlet on "The Lofoten Islands and their Principal Products." It tells by pen and pencil the story of the islands and of their fisheries. No more extended notice is necessary, for a request to the publishers at Detroit will secure a copy of the pamphlet.

CALENDARS.

At the turning of the year reminders of the new order are frequently received. Among the calendars worthy of mention are those published by our local printers—The West-Johnson Company, G. W. Eschenbach, and the Free Press.

The Pope Manufacturing Company issue another edition of their handy pad calendar with a page to every day and a corresponding number of praises for the Columbia. Scott and Bowne issue a similar pad calendar to keep the recollection of their emulsion fresh. M. J. Breitenbach Company issue a daily memorandum book to keep their product always before the eye; while Johann Hoff seeks to be remembered by a tiny memorandum book fitted with a pad just for a month; it is intimated that monthly visits will be made by the pad. Mr. Fellows issues another edition of his bi-monthly memorandum pad. The thanks of the MAGAZINE are extended to one and all, for each has a use in our office.

PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

Fischer, Louis, M.D. The clinical value and chemical results of using Professor Gaertner's Mother Milk in Children. *Reprint.*

Oliver, Charles A., A.M., M.D., Philadelphia. Resection and advancement of the levator palpebrae muscle in traumatic ptosis. *Reprint.*

Risley, S. D., M.D., Philadelphia. Secondary glaucoma. *Reprint.*

Ruck, Karl von, B.S., M.D., Asheville, N. C. The clinical value of the culture products of the bacillus of tuberculosis. *Reprint.*

Sparks, Agnes, M.D., Brooklyn. Alcoholism in women; its cause, consequence, and cure. *Reprint.*

Ziegler, S. Lewis, M.D., Philadelphia. A note on the use of Dr. Zeng's Refractometer. *Reprint.*

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It is strictly cooperative and invites correspondence from societies relative to its method. Address

Dr. CHAS. McINTIRE,
Editor and Manager,
Easton, Penna.



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THE LEHIGH VALLEY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

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FOR CONTENTS, SEE THIRD COVER PAGE.

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be asked his opinion of the type or class; and to aid the family in pursuing the proper course to restore him again.

The first, all states of morbid mental depression and painful feeling are termed "melancholia," just as a painful disorder of sensibility is called neuralgia. Types or varieties: simple, delusional, epileptiform, resistive, convulsive, organic, suicidal, and homicidal melancholia. The second, all states of morbid mental exaltation or excitement without depression are called "mania." Types or varieties: simple, acute, delusional, chronic, ephemeral, and homicidal mania. These are like motor storms or explosions as convulsions, and spasms. The third is a fixed delusional state without excitement or depression called "monomania." Monomania of unseen agency, of suspicion, of persecution, and of fear. The fourth is that of general mental enfeeblement called "dementia" or "amentia." Dementia is secondary to other mental states. Amentia is from birth as idiocy or congenital imbecility. The fifth is the "stupor" patient insensible to external influences. The sixth is a state of want of inhibitory mental power without marked depression, exaltation, or enfeeblement, as impulsiveness and dipsomania.

The varieties may arise from innate morbid tendencies in the organ, either being caused from within or without the organism.

So far as practicable, it is desirable to conduct an examination as to the mental health of a patient along the same lines which are pursued in an inquiry as to physical health. Indeed these two examinations should go hand in hand, for after all, any collection of symptoms which may be held to constitute insanity is always the result of physical disease, not of the mind but of the material substratum of the mind; *viz.*, the cerebral cortex. Since the various organs of the body are interdependent, the disease of parts other than the cerebral cortex itself may, and often does have an effect in setting up or keeping active symptoms of insanity. Hence an inquiry as to the question of insanity in any case, should be coupled with an inquiry as to the physical condition.

In any disease, whether insanity or a so-called physical disease, two questions naturally arise in the physician's mind at the onset.

First. What features are present in the case constituting a departure from the normal condition.

Second. What was the order of the progress of events?

The record of the answers to these questions constitutes the history, which should, in all cases, be sought after with the greatest care, and if sent to an asylum should be on the certificate. The physician is properly prepared to begin the examination and treatment, when he has a complete history.

To be able to recognize disease one must be acquainted with the normal conditions. The normal standard is the individual under consideration before he became insane. This has a considerable range of conduct. We must recognize the suppression, exaltation, depression, or perversion of the mental faculties. We judge as to sanity or insanity by his conduct. Under conduct is included words and deeds of the individual or their absence. We observe the abnormal conduct in the conversation or action or both in the patient. The conversation may reveal delusions, hallucinations, emotional depression or excitement, and confusion of ideas. In action, insanity may reveal morbid impulses to murder or suicide. Among the more common acts are indecent exposure, fantastic dress, and eating disgusting articles.

The medical profession has grave medico-legal responsibilities thrown on it by the provisions of many of the enactments or laws that stand on the statute books, relating to the insane. In addition to their statutory duties judges, lawyers, and administrators of the law constantly call in the medical men to help in the solution of questions they only can solve. There are also delicate duties of a purely medical and medico-social kind thrown on our profession, and the impossibility of finding elsewhere so qualified and wise an adviser as the family doctor. It is their duty to make a searching inquiry into facts, to aid the patient in securing proper care and treatment, and restore his mind again.

The chief duties may be classified as follows :

First. Taking the responsibility involved in treating cases at home, placing them under attendants, advising that they be put under a certain degree of control, and prevented from transacting business. The patient does not know he is ill, and may resent

being put under control. The only safe rule for the doctor is to make it clear that he only advises, not acts. The safety of the patient devolves on the relations. The patient may threaten all who have to do with him with the most dire consequences.

Second. The most common medico-legal duty is that of signing the medical certificate for placing patients in asylums for care and treatment.

There are two methods of committing an insane patient.

The first is by the certificate of two reputable physicians sworn to with the history of the case.

The second is by an order of court: This is done in two ways, first by selecting six (6) jurymen to hear evidence and declare the patient sane or insane; second by the judge appointing a committee of three: A physician, a lawyer, and a layman, they to report to the judge of the examination.

By a universal practice of the country, sanctioned by the commissioners of lunacy, a patient may be detained as a lunatic without defining insanity but clearly enacts that care and treatment are the chief objects of his detention.

The first point is to have definite grounds; next convince the patient's responsible relatives of the necessity for certification. Explain the reasons for your opinion and point out the risks. It is well to be prepared to say what kind of insanity he labors under.

The chief things that constitute statutory fitness are:

1. Danger to themselves or others.
2. Disturbance of the public peace.
3. Inability to care for and manage themselves or their affairs.

Other conditions, social, monetary, and domestic, come in before certifying.

When filling the certificate consider the following points:

1. Give full name and residence.
2. Facts constituting or indicating insanity: put in the indisputable delusions in a clear way, with actions and appearance. No evidence is so satisfactory to lawyers as insane delusions. Next comes incoherent speech; put in some of his words. Also

if suicidal or homicidal, insert description of previous conduct and speech. By all means try to get a cue to his delusions.

3. Civil rights; he must have his property looked after. The physician meets with fixed legal and medical principles. In regard to will-making, great attention is directed to the subject. The great trouble is the physician is not consulted always at the time of making the will, to examine the real capacity of the testator, but after death. We must enlarge our ideas of the disturbances of the mental functions as to the senile dotard; the apoplectic, the man exhausted in strength from the disease, the man confused in mind from fever or drink, may all require their testamentary capacity to be tested.

To ascertain the testamentary capacity of a patient he should insist on seeing the patient alone or with a nurse.

1. Is the patient free from drugs and alcohol?
2. Does he know the nature of the act he is to perform?
3. Find out if he is influenced in doing it.
4. Make the intended testator go over the particulars twice without prompting or suggestion, with an interval of fifteen minutes.

The forms of insanity in which crime is usually committed are mania, epileptic, or alcoholic insanity or homicidal mania. Crime is usually committed in the incipient stage. I wish medical men were placed in a more satisfactory position before giving evidence.

One of the most difficult and most responsible duties of the physician is to give confidential family advice, about engagements to marry, or to advise as to the education of children of a very neurotic stock.

The French physicians lay stress on the great affinity of neurotic stock for love and marriage. Clouston always advises young men to marry fat women and avoid marrying into a neurotic stock. If they do intermarry, they leave the world worse than they found it thereby.

If we are asked about a young man or woman, whether he or she will become insane or not, we can only say that science does not yet enable us to answer that question certainly.

most prolific source of pathologic change. Congestion means engorgement. This indicates inflammation, and now follows in its train all the symptoms of pathologic changes which indicate disease.

Cold, and the suppression of cutaneous functions, general capillary engorgement will, in most instances, expend their morbid influence in the arrest of healthy nephritic secretion. In the whole list of etiologic evidence, we have nothing that will act more promptly, or seriously, in the economy as a factor of disease than cold and exposure. Here we have the combination of disease generators from which there is no escape.

The presence of albumin in the urine is pathologically peculiar in the exanthemata. Scarlatina stands out most conspicuously as the one eruptive disease, having this much-dreaded disease as its boon companion, or fatal follower as a sequela. How often we congratulate ourselves with the rapid and apparently healthy convalescence of our little ones as they emerge from scarlatina, rubeola, or the allied eruptive fevers, with every assurance that they are now on the high road of rapid restoration to health! This deceptive fate is an illusion—soon are we confronted with slight edema of the extremities, swollen eyelids, elevation of temperature, if not an eclamptic seizure, higher colored, scanty urine, all too plainly indications of nephritic engorgement, and the presence of albumin.

Then we have albuminous urine with the scourge of diphtheria; here too we have a blood poisoner treacherously breaking down unsuspected the only barrier left, which we are hoping to strengthen by tonics, nutrition, and the allied treatment.

Again, in an epidemic of the eruptive fevers or diphtheria, how often is the invasion of the disease fatal before we are prepared to make a diagnosis, mainly the result of renal congestion, doubtless producing cerebral uremia, eclampsia, and death! Erysipelas, variola, and cholera, are also classed among the producing factors of albuminuria.

Persons employed in saturnine occupations are supposed to have evidences of granular kidneys. If such be true, how often then must one of the main causes of death in painters' colic be associated with the poison of albumin!

One of the most important features in discussing this subject is the fact whether the presence of albumin in the urine, and persistently present during a period of several years, is indicative of a pathologic condition, or whether it does not amount to a symptom of sufficient importance to arrest our attention, or warrant the administration of any special treatment. I offer this as a result of personal observation, not only of patients under my care, but of instances where the presence of albumin was daily present for four years; in one case in a young man who was passed for life insurance, subsequently dying with pneumonia. In another instance, where the presence of albumin was persistent in varying quantities for a period of three years, the patient finally becoming dropsical to such an extent as to require paracentesis three times in two weeks, removing at each operation nearly 300 ounces of fluid. This patient was a private one in the wards of one of our most reputable hospitals, of one who has written to the profession at large a "Special Work on Diseases of the Kidneys," and through this long siege of illness the presence of albumin was not recognized as a factor of disease in this case. This patient died with cerebral uremia.

That albuminous urine was a symptom of certain dropsies and *vice versa*, was first noticed by Dr. Wells, of St. Thomas Hospital, and Dr. Blackhall, of Exeter; that it indicated especially renal dropsies was the discovery of the research and observation of Dr. Bright, whose contributions to our literature on this subject have been so elaborate and truthful, that the disease has since borne his name, "Morbus Brightii" or "Albuminuria." The disease has peculiar association with gastric symptoms—closely resembling all the forms of gastric catarrh, flatulence, acid eructations, indigestion, vomiting, and marked cephalalgia; dilated pupils, skin dry and harsh, well-marked arcus senilis to those of advanced years; acute cerebral pains, secretion of urine scanty and high colored, dark, not amber. The color of the urine varies very much, oftentimes perfectly clear, and yet loaded with albumin; cardiac disturbances, and sooner or later follows in rapid succession edema of the extremities, and in close march the abdominal effusion.

The changes produced upon the retina invokes the aid of the

specialist, who with his ophthalmoscope, tells you plainly that the prospect of total blindness is rapidly developing. This is additional testimony that confirms the influence of the poison. Dropsy, even edema, is not always present. The rapidly fatal cases die before the presence of dropsy is manifest. Tube casts, as revealed by the microscope, at the hands of the expert, are in some cases summoned to our aid.

To illustrate the importance of slide examination, I quote from the work of Dr. Richardson.

"I well remember when a mere tyro in the art of microscopy, consulting an intimate friend, somewhat further advanced, but also in the stage of pupilage, in regard to a supposed cast from a uriniferous tubule, occurring in the urine of a patient believed to be suffering from Bright's disease, the nature of which we could neither of us satisfactorily determine, although, now looking back to its appearance, I am confident that it was neither more nor less than a minute filament of flax derived from the soft linen rag with which I had cleansed the slide."

The author continues :

"I have often spent hours over a single specimen of urine, slowly and carefully examining a whole slide, composed of more than a hundred fields, without being rewarded by the discovery of a single indubitable cast, and yet in the end accumulating sufficient to accurately diagnose the disease."

While we may conclude a true diagnosis of albuminuria, our prognosis can be predicated with some margin of allowance in favor of the patient.

Assuming that the patient has Bright's disease, he is not necessarily condemned to death. It is oftentimes surprising how long a creaking door will hang upon its hinges ; so it is in chronic disease. A perfect diagnosis of the malady is established, and yet the fountain of life is sapped by some intercurrent disease.

The confirmed subject of albuminuria is a most pitiable one—an object of our deepest sympathy. No avocation can be prosecuted with comfort, social intercourse seriously disturbed, the severity of suffering renders life miserable, and its burdens intolerable.

Is the disease curable by any well established routine of treatment ?

The line of therapeutics in this disease is directed towards re-

lief of urgent symptoms, and if possible the arrest and the prevention of a return of acute suffering. One of the first and most important suggestions in treatment is the care of the cuticular surface. The skin must receive our attention. The body should be encased in flannel—the warmer the better. A condition of body moisture should be generated in order to relieve the work of the kidneys. When the conveniences are at hand, hot baths, followed by systematic friction, and rest in bed between blankets, kept additionally warm with bottles of hot water. When the patient can have this treatment, it should be repeated daily. Exposure to sudden changes of temperature must be positively interdicted. Moderate exercise, when able to take it, out of doors, if not too cold; walking about the rooms when able to do so.

As to the propriety of severe counter-irritation over the lumbar region, I question very much whether any good results follow.

Purgatives in this disease have always held a conspicuous place in the treatment. These medicines may or may not be the drastic hydragogues, or simply those whose virtues apply directly to the liver. In general anasarca we resort to a pill containing elaterium, scammony, gamboge, squills, jalap, the pulvis jalapis compositus, etc. Purgatives, if used at all, must be decided, so as to procure pure watery discharges from the bowels. In this disease the use of any mercurial is most positively interdicted by all writers on the subject. The preparation of iron, especially the *mistura ferri* or Basham's iron mixture is the generally accepted one. This is given in liberal doses according to the age of the patient.

Among the more recent formulas introduced into the market, I have used Gudes' pepto-mangan with, I think, marked success. In the hands of some of my colleagues they report good results from the use of protonuclein. This I have not employed in Bright's disease.

Strychnin combined with iron in pill form, flavored with creosote, is an excellent combination.

The very liberal use of lithia water, or the lithia tablets dissolved in vichy, taken at regular intervals is helpful.

The hot vapor bath, when the modern conveniences for bath-

ing are not at hand. In some instances scarifying the extremities is done to establish drainage. Then in abdominal effusion we must resort to paracentesis. This may necessitate frequent repetition. In one case of this disease following scarlatina in a boy five years old, I performed paracentesis nine times in ten weeks.

The use of diuretics must be encouraged; the infusion of juniper berries with potassium bitartrate; scoparius or spartein, the active principle; fluid extract of *Triticum repens*, *Chimaphila umbellata*; infusion of *digitalis*; the use of good cider in which to make the infusions is reputed to have some virtue; fluid extract of *jaborandi*, *dulcamara*, etc., are recognized remedies.

Dietetics.—Milk in any form, sterilized, peptonized; buttermilk; nutritious broth—beef, mutton, and chicken; graham bread; baked potato; dried fruits; hock wines; champagne; dark claret wine, diluted; rare roast beef. The diet must be closely watched, owing to the severe cerebral symptoms which are almost invariably followed by rejection from the stomach. Full doses of granular bismuth, or of any of the caffein seltzers; bromo-seltzer will afford comfort to the stomach.

The various changes and complications which arise, must call for our prompt decision, and use of remedies. Mr. President, I feel, with the experience I have had in a special line of cases, in which the presence of albumin and urea enter so largely as a cause, that for the benefit of the younger members of the society, I cannot permit to pass unnoticed in this paper, a brief allusion to what I consider one of the most alarming, terrible, and harrowing conditions of disease, with which you will sooner or later be obliged to meet in your professional work. I refer to puerperal eclampsia, produced by an excess of the above-named toxics entering into the blood.

The marital rites, aside from the mutual affection which is the *fons et origo* of life, is seconded by no greater bond of union than the prospect of parentage. To the prospective mother and her interests, will you as her medical adviser, be compelled to assume a responsibility which may seem small in your estimation of issues as they go, but with her, in moments of loneliness and

depression, assume proportions whose exaggeration seem boundless. When consulted in her interests, make it your duty to have a personal interview at the earliest practicable moment. Never lose sight of the action of the secretions; examine the extremities for edema; take a specimen of the urine and test it for albumin. Prescribe the salines as purgatives or laxatives; never delay the administration of remedies until you are called in an emergency, at an hour when least expected, to find that the accumulation of poison has burst forth in all its violence, your patient writhing in the agonies of an eclamptic seizure, with all the horrible contractions and distortions, and the impending dissolution. It is at this juncture that your prompt decision will be required. True, you have remedies; you may apply them; relief fails to come; the spasms continue; the os is closed; vagina hot and dry; you employ venesection to syncope; no relief. With the distress of a loving husband, the agony of despair pictured on the faces of those about you, you must witness, possibly for the first time, the death of a young wife, whose ambition was that she could pass through this ordeal with the hope that the storm of labor would find refuge in the peaceful harbors of maternity; that the home and family circle would be better and happier; that this Heavenly blessing conferred upon them would for all time to come cement their lives more closely to the end of their earthly pilgrimage.

AMONG THE SOCIETIES.

SCHUYLKILL COUNTY.¹

COUNTY HOSPITAL, SCHUYLKILL HAVEN, April 5, 1898.

Fourth monthly meeting of the Schuylkill County Medical Society was held this date.

The meeting was called to order by H. C. Bowman, president.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Members present: Drs. Bowman, Moore, Bronson, H. J. Swaving, John G. Swaving, Morris, Taggart, Brady, G. H. Halberstadt, C. A. Bleiler, Cleaver, Monaghan, O'Hara, Lewis, Farquhar, Pollak, Roth, Lenker, and Coble.

¹ Official report.

The censors reported favorably on the following candidates : J. H. Hagenbuch and W. H. Dechert, both of Mahanoy City.

G. H. Halberstadt presented his resignation as censor. On motion the same was accepted.

On motion the society proceeded to nomination and election for censor. C. A. Bleiler and G. W. Farquhar were nominated. Farquhar receiving the highest number of votes was declared elected.

The following bills were presented: George H. Halberstadt, \$6.40; LEHIGH VALLEY MEDICAL MAGAZINE, \$8.50; J. W. Coble, \$10.16; R. H. Hirsch, \$1.25.

On motion, orders were drawn in payment of same.

A communication from Dr. Chas. McIntire, of Easton, Pa., was read.

A motion was offered by G. H. Halberstadt that the society dispense with the August meeting, thus affording the members an opportunity to attend the meeting of the Lehigh Valley Medical Association, which will convene in Pottsville on or about July 26, 1898.

On motion, the Committee on Itinerant Doctors was instructed to look up the law and bring a copy of the pamphlet laws containing the act passed by the legislature governing the registration of physicians.

Dr. G. H. Moore, physician and surgeon of the Schuylkill County Hospital and Almshouse, read an able and practical paper on "The Recognition of Insanity and Medico-legal and Social Duties of Medical Men in Mental Diseases."¹

A discussion followed which was participated in by Drs. H. J. Swaving, D. Taggart, C. Lenker, A. F. Bronson, C. A. Bleiler, P. H. O'Hara, and G. H. Halberstadt.

W. J. Monaghan was appointed to read a paper at the next meeting, and P. H. O'Hara alternate.

Collection of dues: L. A. Flëxer, \$2.00; W. H. Matter, \$2.00; H. D. Rentchler, \$2.00; John G. Swaving, \$4.00; P. H. O'Hara, \$6.00; S. H. Brady, \$2.00; Victor T. Roth, \$2.00. Total, \$20.00.

The following resolution was offered: "That this society ex-

¹To be published in the May number.

tend their thanks to the directors of the poor of Schuylkill County, and Dr. G. H. Moore, for having the pleasure and opportunity of holding this, their monthly meeting of the society, at the county hospital, and be it further resolved, that in making the inspection of the hospital we find that the care and comfort of the patients is all that could be desired, and we congratulate the directors and physicians in their noble mission."

No further business, the society adjourned to meet at Mahanoy City, Mansion House, May 3, 1898, at 2.15 P.M.

THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AT DENVER, COLORADO, JUNE 7-10, 1898.

Are you going to Denver? The profession of Colorado are preparing to give you an enthusiastic welcome. The railroads are slow in announcing the rates, but it is confidently expected to be approximately a single fare for the round trip with a 30-day limit, and a stop-over permit at Omaha to see the exposition. This will make the round-trip ticket cost about \$50, rather less than more from points governed by the Philadelphia rates. The Pullman Company charge \$11 each way for a double berth. The program, as far as announced, promises well, and the opportunity to see Colorado will be unexcelled. Except on the limited trains, where an excess of fare is charged, the trip occupies at least three nights and two days. The time, en route, can be spent most pleasantly if there is a party of congenial friends, with a through Pullman from the place of rendezvous to Denver. The same is true for the return trip if a common time for starting can be arranged. The MAGAZINE offers its services to arrange for such a car over desirable roads, provided at least 20 express a desire to go. A Pullman car cannot be secured at the ordinary rates for a much smaller party than that. Let those who contemplate making the trip write to the MAGAZINE at once, and if a sufficient number express a desire to go, an itinerary will be suggested, and an effort made to arrange a pleasant trip.

There have been rumors about the charges of the Denver hotels. The latest official circular of the Committee of Arrangements is given in this connection to prevent misunderstanding.

DENVER, COLORADO, Feb. 23, 1898.

The following is a list of the principal hotels of Denver with the rates agreed upon for the meeting :

THE BROWN PALACE HOTEL. 17th street and Broadway. Take 17th street (red) car to hotel. European plan, \$1.50 per day and upwards. American plan, \$3.00 to \$5.00 per day and upwards. These regular rates will apply during the meeting for available rooms if no reservation has been made. For reservations and rooms to be occupied by one person only, application must be made to hotel for rates.

THE WINDSOR HOTEL. 18th and Larimer streets. Take 17th street car to Larimer street. American plan, \$2.00 per day ; room with bath, \$2.50 per day.

THE ALBANY. 17th and Stout streets. Take 17th street (red) car to hotel. American plan, \$2.00 to \$3.50 per day.

THE MARKHAM HOTEL. 17th and Lawrence streets. Take 17th street car to hotel. European plan, \$1.00 per day and upwards.

All reservations at the Albany and Markham must be for the full term of the meeting, and be paid for whether occupied or not unless cancelled ten days in advance. They reserve right to place persons occupying a room alone in a single room.

THE NEW ST. JAMES HOTEL. Curtis, near 16th street. Take 17th street (blue) car to hotel. American plan, \$2.00 to \$3.50 per day.

L'IMPERIALE. 14th street and Court Place. Take Colfax avenue car to Court Place. American plan, \$2.00 to \$3.00 per day.

METROPOLE HOTEL. Broadway, near 17th street. Take 17th street (red) car to Broadway. European plan, \$1.00 to \$2.00 per day. \$1.00 rooms, \$1.50 if occupied by two persons. No reservations made.

THE OXFORD HOTEL. 17th and Wazee streets. Two blocks above depot. European plan, \$1.00 to \$3.00 per day. An extra charge for two persons in one room.

THE AMERICAN HOUSE. 16th and Blake streets. Take 16th street car to Blake street. American plan, \$2.00 per day.

The above hotels make no extra charge for reservations or for persons occupying a room alone except as stated.

THE HOTEL BROADWAY. Cheyenne street and Broadway. Take Colfax avenue car to Cheyenne street. American plan, \$1.25 to \$1.50 per day.

THE VALLEJO. 1420 Logan avenue. Take Colfax avenue car to Logan avenue. American plan, \$2.00 per day and upwards.

THE DEVONSHIRE. 14th and Logan avenues. Take Colfax avenue car to Logan avenue. American plan, \$1.50 per day and upwards.

THE ALBERT. 17th and Welton streets. Take 17th street (red) car to hotel. European plan, \$1.00 to \$1.50 per day.

THE ALDINE. 1013 Seventeenth avenue. Take 17th street (red) car to hotel. American plan, \$1.25 per day.

THE RICHELIEU. 1727 Tremont street. Take 17th street (red) car to Tremont street. European plan, \$0.50 to \$1.00 per day.

THE EARL. 1430 Tremont street. Take Colfax avenue car to Tremont street. American plan, \$1.50 to \$2.00 per day.

GLENARM HOTEL. Glenarm and 15th streets. Take Colfax avenue car to hotel. European plan, \$1.00 per day and upwards.

THE BONAVENTURE. 18th and Glenarm streets. Take 17th street (red) car to Glenarm street. European plan, \$0.50 to \$1.50 per day.

THE DREXEL. 17th and Glenarm streets. Take 17th street (red) car to hotel. European plan, \$0.75 to \$1.50 per day.

These hotels make small extra charges for two persons occupying same room. No charge for reservation.

Applications for rooms should be made to the hotels direct.

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE SOCIETY.

Every loyal physician of Pennsylvania that can possibly do so ought to gather at Lancaster in May to assist in celebrating the jubilee of our state society. Members of the Lehigh Valley Medical Association especially ought to gather to do honor to their fellow member, an ex-president, Dr. W. Murray Weidman, the president of the association.

The preliminary notice is a long one, and can be seen in the *Pennsylvania Medical Journal*. The railroads will issue tickets at one and a third fare for the round trip, upon presenting a card order, which may be obtained from Dr. C. L. Stevens, Athens, Pa., the secretary of the state society.

NEW JERSEY STATE SOCIETY.

The 132d annual meeting of the Medical Society of New Jersey will be held at Asbury Park from June 28th to 30th, inclusive, under the presidency of Dr. David C. English, of New Brunswick. New Jersey is fortunate in its number of summer resorts affording pleasant places for meeting, with abundance of hotel accommodation. Asbury park, during the last week in June, ought to be sufficiently attractive, apart from the excellent program usually furnished by the state society, to draw together a large number of physicians.

The Lehigh Valley Medical Magazine.

PUBLISHED BY

The Lehigh Valley Medical Association.

For the Use of the Profession within the limits of its Active Membership.

IGNORANCE AND ARROGANCE.

The following is a paragraph from a circular letter personally addressed to the writer of this article, although he imagines every other physician on the circular mailing list of the firm received the same.

"We receive, at frequent intervals, communications from physicians asking if our — and — are susceptible of combination. Some ask us to give the proportions best suited in certain cases. The frequency of such inquiries leads us to address this letter."

Both preparations quoted above have their reputed formulas plainly printed on the labels. They appear to be sufficiently "ethical" to be eligible to the advertising pages of the *Pennsylvania Medical Journal*. Why then, the necessity of the inquiry? Is it not a sorry confession of ignorance on the part of those who inquired? Yes, and a confession of confirmed inertia, for a half hour's study of any work upon therapeutics would suffice to have given the knowledge sought at second-hand by correspondence.

Again, is it not hypertrophied presumption upon the part of this worthy firm of manufacturing chemists and pharmacists to generalize upon these frequent inquiries, that all physicians are thus ignorant of the properties of some of the simpler articles of the *materia medica*? The cobbler can give a pointer to the great painter, but it is in the line of his trade; when he attempts to trespass he is justly rebuked. It is not damning, if a man is ignorant, to learn one's therapeutics from his druggist. It is not modest for the druggist to exploit his opinions unasked.

NOTES.

Two papers prepared for the winter meeting of the association have not yet been published. The manuscripts of neither paper have yet been received. The fault does not rest with the MAGAZINE in this instance.

* * *

The statement in the last number is repeated in this. Owing to circumstances beyond the control of the Publishing Committee, the editorial force is unable to bring up the departments to their usual degree of efficiency; much less to the ideal of the committee. This may possibly continue until the annual meeting, when the Executive Board may be able to alter the present circumstances.

* * *

The summer meeting of the Lehigh Valley Medical Association will be held at the Tumbling Run Hotel, Pottsville, Thursday, July 28. The Committee of Arrangements—Drs. Farquhar, Halberstadt, and Taggart—are actively at work, and the prospects for an attractive meeting are excellent.

* * *

We are in receipt of a reprint of a paper read before the Luzerne County Medical Society, by Dr. F. C. Johnson, relative to the erection of a state sanitarium for consumptives, at White Haven. The subject demands more than a passing notice and will be reserved for another time.

* * *

The pamphlet volume of transactions of the Berks County Medical Society for 1897 makes a volume of 121 pages. It publishes the following papers read before the society during the year. "The Influence of General Medicine on the Average Duration of Life" (president's address), Dr. Chas. W. Bachman; "Sanitariums and Sanitation," Dr. A. B. Dundor; "Pulsating Empyema," Dr. G. F. Potteiger; "Tubal Pregnancy and Appendicitis," Dr. Daniel B. D. Beaver; A Case of Simulated Pregnancy Going on to Labor," Dr. J. W. Keiser; "Uterine Fungosites and the Use of the Curette," Dr. Clara Shetter Keiser; "Pleu-

ritic Effusions," Dr. M. L. Bertolette; "Intestinal Hemorrhage in Typhoid Fever," Dr. Webster B. Kupp; "Fever and its Treatment," Dr. Hobart A. Hare (of Philadelphia); "Cystic Liver," Dr. Israel Cleaver; "Foreign Bodies in the Eyeball," Dr. F. W. Frankhauser; "Refraction Errors as a Cause of Reflex Disturbances," Dr. J. W. Keiser; "Treatment of Croupous Pneumonia," Dr. John K. Seaman.

This list evidences an activity on the part of the society that it is commendable, only would not a cooperation of societies make their mutual transactions more valuable?

AMONG THE PROFESSION.

Dr. Harry L. Fisler has removed from Merchantville, N. J., and opened an office in Easton.

Dr. E. S. Coburn, of Plumsteadville, was married on March 23 to Miss Flora M. Rineman, of Hamstead, Md.

The fifth annual meeting of the Associated Health Authorities of Pennsylvania will be held in Lancaster on the 18th and 19th of May. There will be no State Sanitary Convention this year, which ought, by uniting the excellent quality of the two meetings, make this an especially interesting one. The meeting is to be held during the time of the meeting of the state society, which will give the physician members an opportunity of attending both meetings.

The fifth annual meeting of the American Medical Publishers Association will be held in Denver, on Monday, June 6, 1898 (the day preceding the meeting of the American Medical Association). Editors and publishers, as well as every one interested in medical journalism, are cordially invited to attend and participate in the deliberations.

The April issue of the *Buffalo Medical Journal* contains the first instalment of the "History of Medicine in the County of Erie." In these days of the renaissance of the study of local history, would it not be well for every county to copy the example of our New York brethren?

LOCAL NECROLOGY.

March 16. Dr. Elmer R. Snyder, of Hilltown, Pa., University of Pennsylvania, '89, aged 31 years.

March 19. Dr. John B. Brooke, of Reading, aged 65 years.

LITERATURE NOTES.

ANNUAL AND ANALYTICAL CYCLOPEDIA OF PRACTICAL MEDICINE. By Charles E. de M. Sajous, M.D., and one hundred Associate Editors, assisted by Corresponding Editors, Collaborators, and Correspondents. Illustrated with Chromo-Lithographs, Engravings, and Maps. Philadelphia, New York, Chicago. The F. A. Davis Company, publishers. 1898. Vol. I. Abdominal Injuries to Bright's Disease. pp. 601.

This is the first volume of the developed Annual of the Universal Medical Sciences. At first sight, despite the handsome appearance of the volume, one's conservatism resents the change, but this does not last long. The work, as designed, is a great advance upon the old annual, and a concise explanation of the plan will be more helpful than a critical review of the contents. Instead of classifying the topics, the articles are arranged alphabetically. By the use of cross references the bulk of the volume is not increased by duplicate statements, and every subject of importance is to be found in its order. Thus, on page 169, one finds "Agraphia—see Aphasia," and on page 426 the beginning of the article on aphasia. This article will serve as well as any to illustrate the method of the book. First is given the derivation of the word, then the synonyms and definition. Then a column of matter on the varieties. Following this is a description of the symptoms of the different varieties. In the midst of this the size of type suddenly changes; the assertions of the editor in the text are illustrated by abstracts from the periodic literature—the name of the author, the journal, and the date being given in each case. But one can read the large type, skipping these abstracts, and there is a logical connection in the text. Thus, if one wishes to read a recent article on aphasia he can peruse the large type alone. If he wishes to know the opinions of others, or wishes to read more in detail, he can read both sizes of type. If, however, he is desirous of knowing only the recent literature on the subject, he finds scattered through the article

small type-matter headed "Literature of '96 and '97." Reading these alone, he will secure the information desired, such as was given in the old annual. It will be thus seen that the new series furnishes all that was given in the old and, in addition, a well-written article that will at once refresh his memory of what has already been known upon the subject, and put one in a position to appreciate that which is new.

Our heart does not ordinarily go out in loving kindness towards a book agent, but we bespeak the favorable consideration of this improved annual should the publishers put it on the market through solicitors.

PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

[The management is always pleased to loan any of these reprints to any of the readers of the MAGAZINE. Please enclose postage in your letters requesting them.]

John B. Deaver, M.D., Philadelphia. Remarks upon the differential diagnosis, the pathology, and the treatment of appendicitis. *Reprint.*

C. C. Fite, M.D., New York. Solution of the proprietary medicine question. *Reprint.*

Charles B. Fitzpatrick, M.D., New York. Notes on a yellow-fever prophylactic fluid. *Reprint.*

Joseph Eastman, M.D., LL.D., Indianapolis, Ind. (1) Diagnosis in Abdominal Disorders. (2) The question of pelvic support. *Reprints.*

R. B. Leach, M.D., Minneapolis, Minn. Arsenization method of treating cholera. Memorial to Congress. Senate Document. *Reprint.*

George Mays, M.D., Philadelphia. Calomel vs. antitoxin.

Charles A. Oliver, A.M., M.D., Philadelphia. (1) Some of the inefficiencies of the methods ordinarily employed by railway surgeons for the detection of sub-normal color perception. (2) A perfected series of test-type. (3) Clinical history of a series of operative procedures for the cure of cicatricial ectropion from antral disease. *Reprints.*

George Suttre, M.D., Ph.C., Detroit. The possibilities of antitoxin in diphtheria. *Reprint.*

De Forest Willard, M.D., Philadelphia. (1) Anterior displacement of the hip (congenital). (2) Errors of diagnosis in orthopedic practice. (3) Roentgen ray skiagraphy. (4) Laminectomy in spinal cavus paraplegia. *Reprints.*

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—OF—

THE LEHIGH VALLEY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

MAY, 1898.

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SCHUYLKILL COUNTY, J. W. COBLE, M.D.

FOR CONTENTS, SEE THIRD COVER PAGE.

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modern surgery. Its use is not a new thing. It has been used for years; but, during the last several years, greater attention has been given to its many uses in surgical practice than in the past. There is no other agent of its class, that can be used so universally in the general practice of medicine and surgery as can potassium permanganate. Either as a temporary or permanent dressing it serves well. It can be used in almost any operation upon any part of the body. It is speedily prepared at any time and at almost any place. While serving in the capacity of much more powerful antiseptic agents, its use brings about the same equally good results without any possibility of danger to the person or detriment to the tissues acted upon surgically. In this respect it supercedes the same use made of other antiseptics, both as concerns the local effect and also the systematic effect sometimes caused by other drugs upon the system. To speak of the local effect of antiseptics, we all know only too well of their injurious effect upon the tissues, when used in great strengths. Delayed unions and tardy recovery from injuries sustained have been directly traceable sometimes to the too strong use of antiseptics. Happily at the present time we rarely, if ever, resort to the use of such strong solutions of mercury and carbolic acid as was customary in the early days of antiseptic surgery. The strong solutions have had their day. It was the extensive use of them, to a great extent, that prompted the researches that were made in the process of complete sterilization, and from which we derive the greatest benefit in our work of to-day. Truthfully speaking, we must admit, that we owe much more to the sterilization for our success in the past few years than we do to the uses of the powerful drugs in the strong solutions, to which we were accustomed. The process has been brought up to such a degree of perfection that major operations are being performed without the aid of any of the antiseptic powders or dressings save the sterilized ones.

The principal object of these few remarks is to invite your attention to the use of potassium permanganate as it is being used to-day by many of the surgeons of the country. Those men using it almost daily in their work, speak very well of it. A great point in its favor, though it be not a "perfect" remedy

of its kind, is the fact that the results following its use merits its continuance in practice. The permanganate is no new thing, as I said before; for, on the other hand, it is a very old remedy. It has stood the test through years of practice. Its use wears well. The longer we use it the better we like it, and it is surprising, in some instances, that it is not used more extensively. We know surgeons who have used it for the past 25 years and who are still using it to-day. Potassium permanganate is a salt prepared by heating together 10 parts of manganese dioxid and 12 parts of potassium hydrate. It occurs in slender prismatic crystals of a dark purple color, inodorous, of a sweetish, disagreeable taste, and is very soluble in water, with which they form a solution varying from a purplish black to a reddish color, varying according to the strength. When kept dry and not exposed to the atmosphere, the potassium permanganate is a permanent salt, but when in solution it is brought into contact with an organic body, it at once gives up its oxygen to the latter and is converted into potassium hydrate and the black oxid of manganese.

The power of this salt to disinfect wounds is beyond question. The most vigorous opponents to its use in surgery freely admit this fact upon the frequently renewed application of the solution. The reason that frequent applications of the solution are requisite in putrid cases, is owing to the fact that the salt gives up its own oxygen, thereby becoming inert.

The germicidal power of this salt has long ago been discovered and frequently verified. According to the *Medical News* and other medical records, experiments are frequently cited as authentic reports proving its value as an antiseptic.

Dr. George Sternberg, who has spent considerable time in this research, has found that the permanganate as a germicide, is a very potent agent, 0.12 per cent. or one part in 833 parts, killing the micrococci of pus in two hours. Excess of organic material, as a rule, interferes, when present, in the destruction of these germs, requiring renewal of solutions to counteract the influence of these tissues. When this action takes place the solution becomes discolored to a greater or less extent, such a result showing it to be the proper time to renew the solution. Despite this fact, the permanganate affords a very efficient

antiseptic solution for the douching of infected cavities and wounds, and ulcers of recent or long standing ; In operating upon acute or chronic abscesses the thorough application of the permanganate solution, purifies the offensive wound at once and at the close of the curetting, if such be necessary, we have seen the most prompt recovery take place without the aid of any other antiseptic agent.

We have seen the permanganate solution used in operations upon almost every part of the body. With reference to injuries of the scalp, I can speak of it in very good terms. The case I bring before your notice to-day is one of the few recoveries from such an extensive destruction of scalp that is met with in ordinary practice. The boy's scalp was torn completely from his head by the bites of a vicious bulldog. So thoroughly was it removed that the periosteum was destroyed over a surface of eight square inches. Besides this denudation of tissue the cartilage of the right ear was bared on both sides, the forehead being so lacerated as to require a dozen or more sutures. Taking the case as a whole it was a ghastly looking sight. The dressing in this case was the simple permanganate solution continued over a period of weeks with good results. In further favor of this solution, let me add that there were four cases of erysipelas in the hospital at the same time that this child was an inmate. I have seen on other occasions this same condition of affairs as regards the apparent immunity of wounds from erysipelatos infection when being dressed with the permanganate solution.

The second case I bring before your notice is a recovery from a compound comminuted fracture of the skull. In reply to certain questions about the use of permanganate upon the membranes of the brain, let me say that both the pia mater and dura mater were lacerated, with a slight extrusion of cerebral substance. All the tissues were subjected to this solution. It was the only antiseptic agent used during the operation save a slight dusting with aristol at the points of exit of the drainage tube. The tube was taken out on the third day. The patient had but one rise of temperature during the stay in the hospital, the rise occurring four hours after the operation, and was then only 100° F.

The third case was a most important one as regards the cleanliness of the wound. The case was one in which there was excessive loss of blood, partial mutilation of some of the bone and quite extensive tearing of the muscles and tendons of the arm. The extensor carpi ulnaris, extensor minimi digiti, flexor carpi ulnaris, flexor profundus digitorum, and the lower portion of the ulnar bone extending into the side of the wrist joint were stripped of overlying tissues into bone tissue. This patient endured other complications, but in spite of a very low physical condition, succeeded in going on to recovery and saving his arm, or at least what was left of it. In this case as in the preceding ones we used the permanganate solution with an occasional dusting of aristol.

Special reference may be made of this solution in the Estlander operation and the many subsequent dressings necessary. The most agreeable results followed its use in nearly every one of these cases.

In operations in the abdominal cavity there is the greatest satisfaction in using it, and very liberally too. I have never seen a septic condition following its use. On the other hand many believe it to be valuable in abdominal surgery. In all abdominal work we use it exclusively. The same may be said of it when used in operations upon the cervix uteri and along the parturient tract.

As regards the treatment of leg ulcers, this remedy stands above all other remedies, wherever a cure can be reasonably expected. The above cases have been acted upon by the salt in solution. In the dry form, when applied to sloughing ulcers, it is of very much service. As to the strength of the solutions used it varies from the weak solutions used in specific cases of one or two grains to the ounce to 60 grains to the ounce, depending upon the class of case upon which it is used. Having seen this remedy used almost daily during the past six years, and having had the opportunity to observe the results of its application in no small variety of cases, I feel at ease in recommending its use more generally, knowing at the same time that nothing but good satisfaction will be the result of our more thorough acquaintance with this remedy.

AMONG THE SOCIETIES.

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY.¹

The regular meeting of the Northampton County Medical Society was held June 17th, at the Bath Hotel, Bath, Pa., President A. L. Kotz in the chair.

The following members were present: Drs. Berlin, Dudley, Erwin, Estes, Kotz, Laciari, Moore, W. H. Seip, Swartz, Weaver, Wickert, and Wilson.

Visitors present were Drs. W. P. Walker, South Bethlehem, W. H. Kasten, Chapman's, and I. F. Hahn, Bath.

The president appointed the following committees for the year: On Annual Report to the State Society, Drs. Amos Seip, Michler, and Andreas.

On Medical Practitioners, Drs. Edwards, W. H. Seip, and E. W. Evans.

On Papers, Drs. Dudley, D. H. Keller, and Laciari.

On Hygiene, Drs. McIntire, Schnabel, Seem, Berlin, and Haughwout.

On motion of Drs. Estes and W. H. Seip, Vol. 4 of the minutes was ordered to be bound.

Drs. Dudley and Erwin moved the following amendment to Article III, Sec. 2, of the by-laws making it read as follows: A committee of three to be known as the Committee on Medical Practitioners, whose duty it shall be to look after all unregistered practitioners residing in the county; to endeavor to secure their registration, and report all such to the district attorney, and furnish him such evidence as they are able to obtain concerning unregistered practitioners. It shall also be their duty to report at the annual meeting of the society a full list of registered and unregistered practitioners, their post-office address, and the system of medicine they practise, and all other matters of interest pertaining to the subject.

Dr. W. H. Kasten, of Chapman's Quarries, having completed his membership, was introduced to the society.

¹ Official report.

Drs. Wm. P. Walker, of South Bethlehem, I. E. Longacre, of Weaversville, and I. F. Hahn, of Bath, were proposed for membership.

Dr. P. O. Wickert read a paper on "Gonorrhea as an Important Factor in Inflammatory Conditions of the Abdomen in Women," which was discussed by Drs. Estes, Laciari, Dudley, and Weaver.

The second paper by Dr. W. H. Dudley, of Easton, detailed "Some Uncommon Effects Following the Use of a Sample of Atropin." Discussed by Drs. Wilson, Estes, and Wickert.

Committee on Jubilee Meeting reported through its chairman, Dr. J. W. Moore, of Easton, as follows. The committee suggest:

1. An afternoon session at the time of the regular annual meeting at Easton at which—

a. Dr. Amos Seip will give reminiscences of the early history of the society.

b. Dr. McIntire will read a history of the early physicians of Northampton County.

2. A banquet in the evening to which representatives of the American Medical Association, American Academy of Medicine, the Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania, and the Lehigh Valley Medical Association shall be invited and address the meeting, all details of these sessions to be worked out by a Committee of Arrangements to be appointed by the president.

The report was adopted and the society then adjourned.

SCHUYLKILL COUNTY.¹

G. A. R. HALL, POTTSVILLE, PA., July 5, 1898.

The seventh monthly meeting of the Schuylkill County Medical Society, was held on this date. The meeting was called to order by Dr. H. C. Bowman, president.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted.

The members present were Drs. Lenker, Bowman, Taggart, Pollak, Coble, Dechert, Cleaver, O'Hara, Bronson, Bankes, and Farquhar.

¹ Official report.

A majority of the censors reported favorably on J. W. Schultz ; on motion the report was received.

A ballot on Dr. P. F. Burke was taken resulting in his election to membership.

The following bills were presented : The LEHIGH VALLEY MEDICAL MAGAZINE, \$15.50 ; J. W. Coble, \$10.50 ; R. H. Hirsch, \$2.50.

On motion orders were drawn in payment of same.

Dr. B. S. Pollak read a concise and practical paper on " Post-partum Hemorrhage " which was well received. The discussion was opened by Dr. Lenker, and continued by Drs. O'Hara, Taggart, Bankes, Cleaver, Bronson, and Pollak.

Dr. H. W. Dechert was obligated and took his seat as a member of the society.

Dr. G. W. Farquhar was appointed to read a paper at the next meeting.

The next meeting is to be held at Girardville, Sept. 6, 1898.

Collection of dues and membership fee : H. W. Dechert, \$7.00.

No further business the society adjourned.

MOUNTAIN AND VALLEY IN COLORADO.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

"Hills of beauty round us rise,
Sentinels of valleys sweet,
Crowned with azure from the skies,
Bathed in em'rald at their feet.
Lightness lingers, rises, falls,
Shedding glory on our walls.
Colorado, Colorado,
Land of treasures, new and old ;
Colorado, Colorado,
Land of silver and of gold ;
Colorado, Colorado,
Sunny day and starry night ;
Colorado, Colorado,
Land of beauty and delight."

—*W. E. Pabor, Song of Colorado.*

Excellent as was the Denver Meeting of the American Medical Association, and helpful to the participants of the various

section meetings, the object lessons following the meeting were far more instructive, and in this the meeting was rare, if not unique. Two things surprised us at the beginning—the railroads compelled us to stay in Colorado for two days after the meeting, or forfeit the concession; and Governor Adams frankly confessed that Colorado had climate for sale. However, at the end, we were profoundly grateful to His Excellency as well as to the railroads. The whole-souledness of Colorado hospitality had a happy effect upon the meeting itself, for little or nothing was heard in objection to the use of Friday as a day for an excursion. That the excursion arranged for that day was certain to be more popular than the final session of the association was evidenced by the announcement of the place of meeting for that session—the ordinary of the Brown Palace Hotel and not in the Broadway theater, where the other sessions were held. Here a squad of the old guard met and finished the routine business, while the rest of us enjoyed the hospitality of the State Society of Colorado and the citizens of Idaho Springs in an excursion to the famous Loop above Georgetown, happy in the knowledge that no new business could be introduced on the last day.

To particularize the excursion, and in this account remember the writer is a veritable "tenderfoot," and this his first visit to a cañon—let us begin at the beginning. The "Loop" is so called because in the effort of the railroad to climb the mountain, the track not only zigzags up the hill, but actually crosses itself on a bridge about 100 feet high. This triumph of engineering is just beyond Georgetown, about 50 miles from Denver, on the Clear Creek Division (narrow gauge) of the U. P., Denver, and Gulf Railway. The railway people said that 1,500 was the maximum number they could handle on a single track narrow gauge road, with the rolling stock at their command. This was thought to be ample, not only to give every visitor an opportunity to see the country, but also to permit many of the local physicians to accompany the visitors in order to make it a "personally conducted" party. The demand for tickets was so great that many of the Denver physicians gave up their tickets, and at the last, 200 tickets additional were issued, insuring 1,500 or 1,600 persons going on the excursion. The train was run in

sections, leaving Denver every 15 minutes, beginning at eight o'clock, until eight or nine sections were sent out. The earlier sections went directly to the Loop, stopping at Idaho Springs on their return. The later sections stopped first at Idaho Springs and then went over the Loop. So much for the arrangement of the excursion.

To particularize our own experiences,—the distaff of the Fates spun the threads of Vermont and Pennsylvania into a single cord that day. We were enjoying together the hospitality of one of the charming homes of Denver, and, after breakfast, wended our way to the station. We found a train comfortably filled ready to start. Our regret at this stage of the journey was that the observation car was overfilled. We recognized the mercy of our deprivation later, when we learned that those on this car were nearly frozen (so they felt), while their eyes were changed to cinder-dumps. Contenting ourselves with a comfortable seat inside, we skirted the foot-hills for about 20 miles, when a turn to the left took the train into a pretty valley through which flows a muddy stream, known as Clear Creek—why muddy we learned later. The chief wonder to our unsophisticated eyes as we entered this valley was a ditch on the hillside with the water flowing up hill. The writer pauses in his narrative at this point, to confess to the feeling of travelers in general and of wanderers in the west in particular; consequently the aforesaid statement was made with considerable hesitancy. He is willing, however, to have the test made, and if the measured distance of a line lying in a vertical plane along the hillside from that ditch to the base of the hill is not longer at a point near the mouth of the valley than it is some distance within the valley, he is willing to be written an Munchausen. And, if as one looks at it, it does not appear to be climbing the hill, he will never again claim eyesight to be proof.

Well within the valley is the pretty town of Golden, the site of the State School of Mines. This is an excellent institution doing good work. Some of us thought another group of buildings belonged to the school, but were informed that these were devoted exclusively to a single branch of technical chemistry—the brewing of beer.

The tracks of the broad gauge extend as far as Golden ; beyond, those of the narrow gauge alone are to be found. The valley soon contracts, the sides are more lofty and precipitous—we are in a veritable cañon. One cannot see very much for the mountains, it is true, but the train climbs up and up and winds its way around, now on one side, anon on the other side of the noisy creek, and we can see up this curve, or down the stream through that one as we bend this way or that. When our side of the car is on the bank of the creek, we have a view of the rocks on the opposite side, and if we get low enough down we can look up their crags and see the blue of the vault above. When our seat is on the side next the rocks, we can look across the car and get some hints of the beauty from afar.

After awhile the train stopped 10 minutes for refreshments. It is quite a scheme of the railways in Colorado to have these stops for refreshments on short runs where there is no special need. On another trip, we would have been delighted had there been a similar pause.

But the recollection of breakfast was too vivid ; besides, we had unbounded confidence in the hospitality of the people of the mountains to be tempted by the delicacies of a railway lunch-counter. The "all-aboard" of the conductor soon was heard and the engine resumed its panting climb. In a little while Idaho Springs was reached, 36 miles from Denver, but over 2,000 feet nearer the clouds, its altitude being 7,543 feet.

The inhabitants of this "mining camp" were glad to see us ; they had sent word to Denver that they would be ; they had representatives on the train assuring us of the fact ; and now we were there we found it to be so. Welcome was sounded forth from the brass band—and it must mean something to set a column of air in vibration through a brass tube 7,000 feet above the sea-level. As we gazed at that band and thought of the rarified atmosphere, our thoughts took us back to the old chemic lecture-room on Ninth street, where that prince of experimenters—Rogers—showed the effect of the lighter gases upon sounds produced by vibrating the column of the gas—we pitied every member of that band but the base drummer. Our welcome was assured but not as yet experienced. We were led to the theater whence

the seats had been removed and long tables spread, and we were bidden to be seated. Were those tables at the sea-level they would have groaned with their burden, but they were too heightened for that. Here was a feast worthy the royal appetite engendered by the mountain air, but this was not all. The pretty girls of Idaho Springs dressed in gala array, who wore jaunty lace caps upon their heads, served the tables. Were it not too presumptuous, I would have said they were Hebes. Then came an address of welcome. It rivaled the imagery of the Orient, where the stately phrase offers the traveler all the house; but it was the cold matter of fact of the Occident: the town was ours. The luncheon was in quality, quantity, and nicety of service, excellent; and, just think of it! Idaho Springs, with a population of less than 4,500, did just as well to every section of that train that day, providing a bountiful entertainment for about 1,700 people!

After lunch we had opportunity to look about and we found that it was true: we owned the place! Did we wish to go anywhere? Carriages with polite drivers were at our disposal. The largeness of it all again suggested the Orient: the wonders of the tales told in the 1001 nights were reproduced in a matter-of-fact way that was quite breath-taking.

Idaho Springs has several features of interest. There is, first and foremost, the glorious climate. There are higher places in Colorado, but Idaho Springs is high enough above the sea-level to make deep breathing necessary, leaving no unused corner for Koch's bacillus to luxuriate. In addition to the air, there is water; there are mineral springs, whence the name. Although not satisfied with this, they strive to call themselves the "Carlsbad" of America. The water is hot, and is a soda spring. Baths and a swimming-pool are provided; the water is quite palatable and is being bottled for export use. Time and space fail to more than catalogue the other attractions of Idaho Springs. Here gold was first discovered in Colorado, and the mining interests are still quite prominent, there being a number of mines in the hills round about with sampling and concentrating mills in the city itself, the silt from which makes Clear Creek a misnomer; and here too is the great Newhouse tunnel that is to intercept veins of unbounded wealth.

But our two hours of visit have expired, and we board the train for still loftier heights. We are bound for Georgetown, 8,476 feet above the sea, and Silver Plume which is one mile distant by wagon road, but 700 feet higher in the air, so the train climbs around the town and then makes a wild dash along the bank of the creek, then by a sharp turn to the right, crossing the creek, it creeps back along the side of the cañon, ever climbing higher. When it reaches a point 75 feet higher than the lower track it turns again to the right, crosses the creek and the track on a curved bridge 90 feet above the level of the water in the creek below, and climbs the mountainside, going in the direction traveled on the lowermost track. We are now going up the cañon again and, although climbing when we again cross the creek, it is on a comparatively low bridge—so easy is it for water to tumble, while we find it so hard to climb. We swing around another sharp curve, this time to the left, cross the creek for the seventeenth time since entering the cañon, and thus keep on the same side of the hill, then run over the horseshoe curve, having a radius of 191 feet and built on a fill 75 feet high, resume approximately our original direction, sweeping around under the mountain and our iron horse stops at Silver Plume, having gone four and one-tenth miles to make the mile between there and Georgetown. And we are quietly resting 9,176 feet above sea-level. The journey back was a re-tracing of the steps; the clue to the loop-labyrinth being furnished in the upward climb, our eyes were ready to take in the wondrous view on our descent, that from the bridge down the valley into Georgetown being particularly impressive.

The next day (Saturday) an entirely different jaunt was suggested. Tickets were freely furnished from Denver to Colorado Springs and return with a ten-day limit. The physicians and citizens of this wonderful city had planned great things for their guests. Our party did not avail themselves of much of their hospitality, so what is here described is not a modicum of the possible, to those who had the inclination and strength. It is thought the simple narrative of the experience of the *MAGAZINE* correspondent will be more interesting than to copy the circulars and glean facts from the newspapers.

There was no limit to the number of tickets as there are two lines running between the two places. The association had adjourned and everybody went. Vermont and Pennsylvania again joined forces, but to-day were quite overshadowed by Colorado ; and very pleasantly overshadowed too. But this numerical superiority was not to remain during the entire day. We started an equal number of initiates and of tenderfeet, then another pair of Denverites was added ; while debating the details for spending the day, the old Keystone became very much in evidence, and the tenderfeet were, numerically at least, equal to the residents. There were first eight of us by count, but as three were from Philadelphia it is not presumption to say that an accurate estimation would make us more than equivalent to the number of the muses. Unfortunately we were not able to maintain the integrity of our ranks and by sundown but one stood on the railway platform watching the speeding train bearing the remnants away.

The ride from Denver to Colorado Springs takes us over a divide—of course it must. You can hardly cross a road in Colorado without going over a divide. This is due, I presume, to their mining industry ; they have become so accustomed to dividends that they must suggest it by every summit from the crest of the Rockies to the parting of the ways of the surface-water in the middle of a block. The divide between Denver and Colorado is at Palmer's Lake, and there is established the other institution, the lunch-counter. All trains stop ten minutes at Palmer Lake to give an equal chance to those who were not able to get anything to eat at Denver and those who feared they could find nothing at Colorado Springs to supply the deficiency.

By and by we arrived at the station at Colorado Springs. Pike's Peak is just across the railway track, indeed, when you get in Pike's Peak avenue on the other side of the Antlers, it almost appears to be nearer than the station. But do not start to walk to it ; too much exertion 6,000 feet above the sea-level will harden your feet too rapidly, and there are many narratives still to be related that require sensitive pedal extremities to appreciate. But, after all, one cannot see nearly so far in these high altitudes as they do at the sea-level. Sailing along the

coast of Maine last autumn we were approaching a lighthouse tower standing out of the sea in all the beauty of its severe simplicity. There was a fresh-looking youth upon the deck, leaning over the rail. Whether he thought we were disconsolate landmen needing entertainment or not never appeared, but he began a conversation with a question—whether we knew how far yon lighthouse was distant? The form of the question implied a desire on his part to secure a confession of ignorance on ours and he received it, whereupon he gravely informed us that it was the Boston light. It must have been 50 miles away at least. Colorado can furnish no clearness of air equal to that!

At first blush it seemed as if we needed a cowboy to round us up. Some one was always disappearing and some one else starting out to hunt for him, when No. 1 would turn up, while No. 3 would start in search of No. 2, but at last we were all safely embarked upon a trolley, bound for Manitou Springs. Manitou is a pretty little settlement lying deep under the shadow of Pike's Peak; near-by is the station of the cog-wheel road that pushes you up 8,000 feet in the air, and takes but nine miles to do it. It was too much like a rocket performance for our party, especially as Pike had veiled his head in the clouds. It has a number of pleasant hotels and cottages and attracted our attention as a pleasant resort for rest and recuperation. Then there are the springs, which we sampled. The iron springs are very good in their way, but many a pharmaceutical house puts up a more palatable iron preparation than that furnished by the Manitou Spring. The other is a soda spring and makes an excellent table water. There is an extensive bottling-house where it is carbonated, using the natural gas which escapes from the spring for this purpose. They also prepare, what in more lowly terms would be called, a ginger ale; but in these lofty flights it is known as ginger champagne. It is the Manitou water flavored with ginger, and is very palatable. This narrative would be judged incredible should I give in unvarnished figures the number of bottles used to introduce this beverage to the palates of the visitors of the American Medical Association. Had all of my readers an opportunity to attend but a single general session of the association, the number would be accepted without

debate, if each received but a mouthful ; but some have not had that privilege.

We fain would have lingered longer at Manitou or wandered into the Garden of the Gods near-by, but the citizens of Colorado Springs had prepared a luncheon for us, and it would not do but to accept their hospitality, so we hastened to the place for the luncheon.

A shadow is always needed to bring out the lights, and we will say but little about the luncheon. The newspapers of the Springs said enough about it to show their chagrin. Only this, the people of Colorado Springs placed the matter in the hands of a caterer whose acquaintanceship with the multiplication table was limited, and he was simply swamped. Our party, thanks to our Denverite contingent, secured enough to stay the pangs of hunger, and we sympathized with those of the Springs over the slip.

But no caterer had the air and mountain view in charge, and even where the professional had preempted a claim and asked a fee to enter, just outside the gate there stood a guardian angel of the delegate with a package of tickets in his hands to be freely given to every one in the party, remarking : " Your money is no good here," and thus we entered South Cheyenne Cañon. There was a portentous sign at the entrance, cabalistic in its purport. It read : " Seven Falls for Fifty Cents." Why one could not tumble at will and freely was a puzzle. Should it be that there was a desire to precipitate one's self but once or twice, would the rate be higher or would it cost seven and one-seventh cents for each and every fall ? O what tenderfeet ! The sign indicated the hire of a burro to take one to the head of the cañon where were the Seven Falls ; why can't people be explicit ? There was enjoyment in every step of this beautiful glen, for such we would call it here. An Onoko, or a Watkin's on a grander scale, and the rocks gorgeous in their coloring, there is nothing with us to compare with them. In addition to the beauties of nature, the cañon, that afternoon, was after the nature of a grand reception. As we went up, and as we came down, we met groups of friends making the same pilgrimage. It was a rare afternoon long to be remembered.

Your correspondent was left alone in Colorado Springs that night. Colorado Springs is essentially a residence city, but one of great wealth. The healthfulness of the climate, and the beauty of the surroundings have attracted a great many, and fashion has added to the numbers. It has become popular with our English friends, and many of the handsome houses are owned by Englishmen. Denver, possibly a little envious, calls it Little London, and avers that even Americans drop their "h's." The city has broad avenues—too broad when the roadway is muddy—lined by elegant houses. A novelty to our eastern eyes was the irrigating ditches stretching along the streets where our gutters run. At stated times each week these are filled and the lawns and gardens irrigated, thus securing a freshness of turf not otherwise obtainable. Colorado College is located here which, under the energy and wise direction of President Slocum, is developing into an institution of high worth.

Excepting a saunter over the hill, and back by the mesa in the morning, the next day was spent quietly. The day must have been a glorious one even for Colorado, the sky a blue never excelled in Italy, the mountains clear cut, below in their gorgeous reds, above in the pure white of the driven snow; the sun shining with warmth but tempered by a pleasant breeze. This walk solved two problems that had been puzzling before. These problems were, why should Colorado be so superlatively a pleasant place? And why should the writer of these chronicles be so enthusiastic over it?

And the solution happened in this wise. As I was walking over the hills—not mountains, but a slight rolling of the plain—with Pike's Peak and the others clearly in view, enjoying the ever-changing effect of light and shade, I was accosted by a man carrying a halter in his hand. He inquired whether I had seen an old white horse on my pilgrimage. Unfortunately I had not, but as I wished to return and by another route, I asked some questions. He suggested I climb over the hill with him while he looked for his horse and he could show me a nearer way. We went along the road to the graveyard. He had an excellent opportunity to convince me of the salubrity of the climate, for the trail of that road was so faint that it was evident

but few traveled that way. But he gave the secret away. This was the old graveyard, abandoned now for many years.

As we walked along, I felt embarrassed. The usual question had not been asked. Only for a few moments, however, for out it came: "What part of the country are you from?" Everybody is from somewhere here, and sometimes, in the transmigration, they lose their identity; it is not always wise to ask "What was your name before you came out here?"

Having no real objection to mention the state of my residence, I gave it, and he inquired more closely. Thinking his knowledge of local geography would be limited, I gave the distance from Philadelphia rather than the name of the place. But he knew more than I thought, for he was from Pottstown and had worked in the mills there. I left him still searching for his horse and sighing for Pennsylvania! Coming into Colorado Springs, I overtook a gentleman, the only other person I conversed with in the two hours or more of my ramble. He, too, was willing to talk, and the place of my domicile was again a matter of solicitude, and he, in like manner, had come from Pennsylvania.

There is only one possible chance for error in the solution of my problems. These cordial people may wish to please everyone, and conveniently originate in various parts of the Union as circumstances require. If not, my solution is accurate, for I recall, on my way to Idaho Springs, the young man who passed through the train to obtain our register, was from Pennsylvania; the very first person who greeted us at Denver had a Pennsylvanian for a wife. One could hardly turn without striking against the Keystone. Colorado's climate, Colorado's cordiality, and every excellence is largely, although not exclusively, due to Pennsylvania's influence, and I had absorbed this fact before realizing it. It is state pride that makes me enthusiastic.

On Monday morning the Colorado Midland Railway placed a special train at the disposal of the delegates and, in connection with the D. & R. G., issued an excursion ticket to Glenwood Springs, at about one-half a one-way rate. It was a day's ride out and a day's ride back over different routes and through the

glories of the Rockies both ways. The way out was through the Ute Pass, ascending at the rate of 211 feet in a mile, and passing through seven tunnels then through Cascade Cañon and a series of parks where summer resort hotels are to be found, and over the Hayden divide, and over hill and plain, through cañon and valley ever higher until Leadville was reached. It was on this ride that we wished for the lunch station, for our obliging conductor stopped the train again and again to permit the kodakers to push their buttons, and it was past three o'clock when we reached this City of the Clouds,—10,103 feet above sea-level,—and luncheon. We had breakfasted at seven, and fed on the keenest of the mountain air between. Hunger had changed; it was almost faintness. The railway restaurant was equal to the emergency, however, both in daintiness and quantity, and the world looked brighter as we backed out from Leadville to the main line. While standing on the platform, I was accosted by a young man claiming to be from Mahanoy City—ubiquitous Pennsylvania.

The climb over the main divide (how familiar the word is becoming) was by Hagerman's Pass, claimed to be the highest point for a railroad in the United States—11,500 feet. The road creeps up by five turns upon itself, so that as one approaches the summit he can see four tracks below him over which his train has run. A stop for a final photograph and then away on the other side. We must be half land over now, for the waters run toward the Pacific and not to the Atlantic, *via* the Gulf of Mexico. Though new glories, including the white virgin of the Rockies—Mount Sopris—are on every side, our eyes tire and the brain wearies with the mere number of the sensations received, and there are few regrets for the darkness of the last half hour before reaching our destination.

The Colorado of Glenwood Springs was a revelation. I had read of it frequently, but received the words with caution, and so was surprised to find what was interpreted as the vivid imagination of the advertising pamphlet writer to be, in reality, but a cold business inventory of realities. With this recollection in mind, I will not attempt to picture the place, but simply detail what is there. Glenwood Springs is a little village in the

valley of the Grand River, where is to be found certain mineral springs, which are claimed to compare in composition with the Kissingen water. Some of these are used for drinking, others for bathing. There is a large swimming-pool covering about an acre of ground, which receives the water from one of these springs at the rate of 2,000 gallons a minute, at a temperature of 127° F. The water is mixed with cold water to bring it down to a comfortable bathing temperature. Besides there are bath-houses with every facility for baths of various kinds. Nearby is the "Colorado," a hotel of rare excellence, built of stone and brick, elegantly furnished and capitally managed. As the dining-room will seat some 300, it is clearly a hotel of some size. It has not been our experience to have pleasanter service or more comfortable appointments elsewhere, and with this I will stop.

The necessity for home-coming, was the reason for leaving early on the morning of June 14th, and another day of glorious view traversing the mountains, including the famous Royal Gorge of the Arkansas, where one almost admires the daring of the engineer as much as the grandeur of the manipulation of nature. Were this day the first of our excursion days, much would be said of it; as it was the last, the vocabulary has already been exhausted. Denver was reached safely that evening, kind friends suggest much more for our comfort and on the morrow, good-byes said, your correspondent set his face toward the rising sun, and with the recollection of all that Colorado had done for the success of the meeting of the association, and his personal gratitude therefor, another recollection came to his mind. On the way to Glenwood Springs a certain delegate said while speaking of the meeting: "But, what will Columbus do?" True enough, what will she?

The Lehigh Valley Medical Magazine.

PUBLISHED BY

The Lehigh Valley Medical Association.

For the Use of the Profession within the limits of its Active Membership.

THE POTTSVILLE MEETING.

The Lehigh Valley Medical Association was organized, ostensibly at least, for the benefit of the medical profession. And, during the 17 years of its life, there has been very little of self-seeking among its more active members; it has reasonably accomplished its purpose. Hence the invitation extended to the profession in this article can be safely accepted by all, as there are no axes to grind; no chestnuts roasting on the hearth.

A very cordial invitation is extended, first to the members of the Schuylkill County Medical Society who have omitted their August meeting out of courtesy to the association; we hope everyone of you will be present. Besides these, there are many physicians in Schuylkill County, not members of the society, whom we would like to see at this meeting. It is not the purpose of this article to discuss why you are not a member of your county society; but of two things we are reasonably sure of most of you, the society is weaker, and you are not having your full privileges of the profession because you are not members; and you are not members because of some misunderstanding, somewhere. Come then to this meeting; you can have a pleasant day, if you will, and it may turn out to your advantage.

But this invitation is not limited to those in Schuylkill County. Let it be understood that the profession is to be welcomed at this meeting. It is arranged so that each one will be independent; each one pays his own expenses, and thus no one is placed under any obligation for hospitality shown. If you care to make applica-

tion for membership, you can find the blanks for the purpose, but this is a matter of your own desire. As a number of copies of this number of the MAGAZINE will be sent to those who are not members of the association, or on the regular mailing list, it is hoped this article makes it clear that you are cordially invited to attend.

The wives and lady friends of physicians frequently attend these meetings, and they are made welcome, adding, as they do, to the success of the social features of the day.

One thing is requested. If you think it probable that you will be able to attend the meeting, send a postal stating that fact and giving your name and address to the secretary of the Lehigh Valley Medical Association, Easton, Pa. It is helpful in making arrangements to know about how many contemplate attending ; there will be no obligation in your thus advising him.

What attractions does the meeting afford that will make it desirable for you to come? The program for the meeting best answers this question.

There will be a meeting of the executive board at 9.30, and the association will convene at 10.00 A.M. The order of business will be as follows :

1. Roll-call.
2. Program reported.
3. Minutes of the last meeting.
4. Appointment of a nominating committee.
5. Action on the report of the executive board at the winter meeting, which was made a special order of business for this meeting. For the text of the report see the February MAGAZINE.
6. Address of the retiring president, Dr. Mary Greenwald, of Stroudsburg.
7. Report of the treasurer.
8. Report of the executive board.
9. Election of members.
10. New business.
11. Paper—"Subcutaneous Nailing in Fractures with Unusual Tendency to Displacement." By John B. Roberts, A.M., M.D., of Philadelphia.
12. Address. "Diagnosis of Renal Calculi by means of the X-rays." By Max J. Stern, M.D., of Philadelphia.
13. Report of the nominating committee.
14. Unfinished business.
15. Induction of the president-elect.
16. New business.
17. Adjournment.
18. Organization of the new executive board.

The meeting will be held in the G. A. R. Hall, and the dinner will be served at the Pennsylvania Hall Hotel, which is also the headquarters of the association. The dinner will be served at 2.00 o'clock.

After dinner an excursion will be made to the Tumbling Run Park, a special car being run for the association and their friends. The fare is not known at this writing, but will be announced on the program. The Tumbling Run Park affords a number of attractions for an excursion, including boating and bathing; but not the least of the attractions is the opportunity of meeting one's fellows socially when freed from the cares of patients.

Let there be an effort on the part of all to attend.

NOTES.

In the light of subsequent revelations, it is a sad commentary on the thoughtlessness of the college student, that the acts of vandalism committed at Lafayette College during the past year, should be charged, by common consent, to some of the students. Now that the real perpetrator has confessed, a stranger psychological question has been sprung upon us. While not disbelieving the possibility of total depravity, the question whether the ex-instructor is a paranoiac or not ought to be carefully investigated. Were it decided that he was, it would not tend to mitigate any sentence, for it is conceded that paranoia is incurable.

* *

And this suggests the fact that, in Pennsylvania, we have no place for the detention of the criminal insane. Were the chances for escape greatly diminished, insanity might be less frequently employed as a line of defence. Our state spends money enough for its various institutions, but does not always expend it most wisely.

* *

An association of medical librarians has been formed whose object is "to encourage the improvement and increase of public medical libraries." The association will doubtless carry on the efforts of its president, Dr. George M. Gould, to exchange du-

pligate volumes and journals. Miss M. R. Charlton, of Montreal, is the secretary.

* *

There is a need for more public medical libraries ; not merely a number of books stacked on the shelves of the rooms of a medical society, but a library in the fulness of the modern meaning of the word. The great difficulty in securing this is the expense. The profession of New York, Philadelphia, Boston, and Brooklyn is sufficiently numerous to support a library with a moderate assessment. Smaller places, when there is concerted and earnest effort, may also have a medical library ; Grand Rapids, Michigan, affords an illustration of this. Other places nearer home, as Wilkes-Barre and Harrisburg, are gathering collections of books, but they do not keep a librarian employed to fully catalogue them and afford all the aid a library ought to furnish.

* *

In view of this expense, it is well if some other agency can come to the assistance of the profession—a public library, if it is liberal-minded enough. It is pleasant to note that this is done in some places. The Newberry Library houses, in an annex, the medical library for Chicago, and the Denver public library does the same for that city. There is economy in this as the executive force need be increased but slightly, and the best library methods employed in the management of the medical library.

* *

There is one organization that ought to furnish the housing and care of a medical library in any community where it exists, if there is no better place available. It is the least that a hospital can do for the profession to furnish a place and a librarian. This was the case in the earlier hospitals in the country, and their example can well be copied by the newer hospitals in the smaller cities. The books should be furnished by the physicians themselves. It is not now a subject to be debated, but is quite well demonstrated that the modern hospital does not contribute to the welfare of the profession in a community, however it may aid some members of it, and the highly developed feelings of benevolence actuating the governing board of any hospital,

ought to cause them to make such amends as they can in the way indicated.

LITERATURE NOTES.

REPORTS OF STATE BOARDS OF HEALTH.

I. SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH OF NEW YORK. pp. 620, with a volume of maps and charts. Albany Wynkoop, Hollenbeck, Crawford Co., State Printers, 1898.

II. TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1896. pp. cc, 523. Lansing: Robert Smith Printing Company, State Printers and Binders, 1897.

I. After a brief report by the board, this volume reports in detail the work of the board. First there is an account of the examination of the plans (either original or changes) for systems of sewerage and sewage disposal in fifteen of the incorporated villages of the state. These plans must first receive the approval of the State Board of Health before they can be executed. Then follow the reports of 19 separate investigations of various conditions supposed to be prejudicial to the public health. The report on foods and drugs follow. After this are the rules and regulations for the sanitary protection of water supplies as formulated for four of the cities. The tabulation of vital statistics follow, and the report concludes with an article on "The Suppression of Tuberculosis." The report throughout is a business-like document; there is no padding of "instructive" articles from other sources. This makes the volume more valuable as a report of a state board of health, and must commend the board itself to the citizens of New York as an efficient organization.

II. Pages i to cc of this report are taken up with the doings of the board, its meetings, and the work it has attempted—no small amount. The rest of the book treats of the various departures from a normal condition of health, using the methods of analysis and tabulation in which Dr. Baker excels. Judging from the reports of the state boards of health of the various states, we are of the opinion that no other state has so accurate a knowledge of the prevalence of more frequently occurring communicable diseases than has Michigan.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE VERMONT STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY, 1897. pp. 223.
 Burlington : Free Press Association, Printers, Binders, and Stationers,
 1898.

This volume contains the papers read before the society at its meeting at St. Albans in 1897, and the resulting discussions. It contains more material of real worth than the number of pages would indicate. The Green Mountain State need not be ashamed of her physicians if the papers presented at this meeting are fair indicators of their ability.

Henry K. Wampole & Co., of Philadelphia, have placed their imprint on a very excellent pamphlet war atlas. The maps are prepared by Rand, McNally & Co., which vouches for their accuracy. An atlas of this character, when one is continually refreshing his geographic knowledge, is much more convenient than the larger atlases in our libraries.

PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

[The management is always pleased to loan any of these reprints to any of the readers of the MAGAZINE. Please enclose postage in your letters requesting them.]

J. J. Brownson, M.D., Dubuque, Iowa. Injuries from "live" electric light and trolley wires. *Reprint.*

L. Duncan Bulkley, A.M., M.D., New York. Neurotic eczema. *Reprint.*

Wm. W. Graves, M.D., St. Louis, Mo. A preliminary report of overcoming high resistance in Crookes' tubes; a possible step toward maximum resistance. *Reprint.*

Ernest Laplace, M.D., LL.D., Philadelphia. (1) Some remote effects of traumatism of the brain. (2) Surgical interference in cerebral injuries without external lesions. *Reprints.*

Therapeutic notes, May, 1898. Parke, Davis & Co.

H. O. Walker, M.D., Detroit. The surgery of the gall-bladder and its ducts. *Reprint.*

W. A. Walker, M.D., New York. Faulty metabolism, nutrition, and growth. *Reprint.*

H. G. Wetherill, M.D., Denver. (1) The conservative agency of shock. (2) The use and abuse of the uterine curette. (3) Hysterectomy for uterine prolapse. *Reprints.*

Reynold W. Wilcox, M.D., New York. Diet for consumptives. *Reprint.*

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AUGUST, 1898.

No. 8.

PAPERS.

THE RELATION OF PELVIC DISEASES TO HYSTERIA AND INSANITY IN WOMEN.¹

BY MARY GREENWALD, M.D., of Stroudsburg.

Once more the year has rolled round and we have assembled again at our summer meeting for social intercourse and relaxation, turning our backs on office and practice. Yet the thought of both will obtrude as long as we have papers for consideration. The subject I have chosen, which perhaps might be more broadly stated as "The Relation between Pelvic Diseases and Nervous Disorders in Women" is one which is, it may be, old and commonplace; yet it is one which is always of interest. Daily, on the streets and in our practice, we meet women who excite our deepest sympathy if we have any conception of what neurasthenia, hysteria, or other nervous disorders really mean to the sufferers, women, whom perhaps we once knew bright and cheerful, now pale and weary, suffering from pain, depressed and gloomy, having lost the brightness not only out of their own lives, but involuntarily banishing it from the lives of those who are interested in them and who daily come in contact with them.

When one comes to consider the subject one finds a marked division of opinion, depending largely upon the standpoint of the writer. The gynecologist, as a rule, claims that gynecologic troubles are the primary cause of many of the nervous symptoms of patients coming under his care; he is convinced that he has seen cases of hysteria or of neurasthenia which resisted long courses of general treatment begin to improve coincidentally with the institution of local treatment and go on to a good recovery. The neurologist and alienist, on the other hand, find but slight ground for the claims made by the gynecologist and

¹ Presidential address, Lehigh Valley Medical Association, 1898.

speak of the meddlesome treatment of the latter by operation or otherwise. Works on gynecology frequently give considerable space to the consideration of the hystero-neurose, while but scant attention is paid to the subject in works on "Nervous Diseases." The subject of specialism has been much discussed of late and it is to this tendency, no doubt, that the secret of the difference of opinion lies. Every general practitioner knows that there have been many cases of nervous derangement, hysteria, and perhaps even insanity, in his practice that he has been able to trace to a pelvic origin, but he knows, too, that there are many other causes for these same nervous disorders. As in the diagnosis of *any* case, one should not be prejudiced in his judgment by his liking or dislike for any special line of medical work, but should consider each case in all its aspects and possibilities.

That there is an intimate relation between the pelvic organs and the general nervous system will be admitted by all. The ordinary nervous symptoms of even a normal menstruation, the marked nervous symptoms accompanying the establishment of menstruation, the numerous nervous phenomena of pregnancy, and the very uncomfortable nervous sensations experienced at the time of the menopause, all show the close relation with the sympathetic nervous system, while the irritability of temper and the change of disposition which may be manifested at any of these periods in a woman's life, show that there is a relation with the cerebral centers also. Insanities occurring during pregnancy, the puerperium, or lactation favor the idea that there is a relationship existing though they may occur as the result of exhaustion in a person predisposed to insanity.

According to Thomas and Munde, no grave uterine trouble affects the system for any length of time without reacting, to a greater or less extent, upon the general health, the nervous system becoming greatly deranged; the functions under its control are badly performed, and disturbances of nutrition occur as an invariable result. As the local disease often approaches stealthily and slowly, what is more natural than that many should view it as one of the numerous results of a general depreciation? But it should not be forgotten that chronic local disease *is* often the result of a general depreciation of the system. When such

a result takes place the two states react upon each other. The depraved system increases the local disorder to which it has given rise and the irritation kept up by the latter aggravates the degree of the former. This being true, it would be irrational to treat the one without having due regard to the other.

In this latter end of the nineteenth century, we find in our practice many cases of neurasthenia, the result of the high pressure under which we live. Dercum gives as the predisposing causes of neurasthenia, heredity, a constitution in which, while actual disease is not inherited, vitality is depressed, and cell wear and tear taking place readily, recuperative power is feeble—also education and occupation. The exciting causes are overwork, emotional excitement, and debilitating diseases. Very frequently, he says, neurasthenic women complain of pelvic pain and this, upon investigation, proves to be ovarian. Associated with this condition there is marked ovarian tenderness. It is well to guard against confounding actual organic disease with a symptom purely indicative of hyperesthesia or irritability. Large numbers of neurasthenic women suffer from actual pelvic disease. In these cases the neurasthenia is the outcome of the local disease.

The opinion of physicians in regard to the relation of hysteria to pelvic diseases has undergone many changes in the course of years. As the name indicates, it was early thought that the uterus was the cause of all the symptoms of hysteria.

Hippocrates and Plato held the doctrine of the wandering womb. Hippocrates taught that the hysterical globus was caused by the ascent of the uterus against the liver and diaphragm. When it began to be observed that hysteria occurred in men as well as in women the uterine theory of its origin began to lose its force. At present the pendulum seems to have swung quite far in the other direction, many authorities giving but slight place to pelvic diseases in the etiology of hysteria. Still we all know that there is a marked connection between the two.

I remember being very much impressed early in my practice by the slight amount of pelvic disease necessary to cause hysteria in a case that came under my care. The case

was that of a young woman, about 32 years of age, who for four years had suffered from violent hysterical convulsions at the time of her menstrual periods. She was of good physique, large and muscular, and did not seem to be of a markedly nervous temperament. The convulsions were extremely violent, often requiring four men to hold her in bed.

A peculiar feature of the case was that the convulsions were much more severe every second month. At the time the patient came to me the convulsions were becoming more frequent and she was affected by marked choreic movements of the head and upper part of the body. Her general health was very much affected. She complained of pain in the region of the left ovary, very much worse at the time of her period, and of terrific headaches coming on about the third day of the period, accompanied by an aching and drawing in the back of the neck. A local examination showed some endocervicitis with a slight erosion of the cervix and the left ovary enlarged and tender. Local treatment, consisting of applications of iodine and tampons of cotton medicated with a solution of ichthyol and glycerin, was begun, accompanied by appropriate medication—strychnin and liquor potassii arsenitis were given. The patient was treated for two or three weeks before her period, which was the one at which the severest convulsions were expected. The convulsions were slight and the patient required but little restraint. The treatment was kept up for about a month after this and no more convulsions occurred. About a year and a half after this, the patient seriously overtaxed her nervous system and had a recurrence of the convulsions, having two or three attacks, beginning at the time of her menstrual period and occurring after it was over. A rest of a few weeks, with a little local treatment and medication, enabled her to resume her work, and she has had no return of the trouble since then—two years ago. During the four years in which she had suffered so severely from convulsions she was under the care of able physicians, but little attention was paid to the pelvic trouble.

Just at present I am treating a woman who is exceedingly nervous, having a marked tremor, noticeable chiefly in her hands but perceptible even in her voice. Hysterical convul-

sions were frequent, a little agitation or fright, or a few cross words from her husband being sufficient to bring on an attack. The cervix was very much congested and swollen and the seat of quite an extensive laceration. There was also a marked endometritis of long standing. Surgical treatment will no doubt benefit this case greatly. I have been giving her local treatment, and even under that her condition is very much improved. She has had no convulsions since the treatment was begun, a month ago, her nervous tremor is very much lessened, and she seems stronger and brighter in every way. A flood of tears does not now greet every thoughtless word that is spoken to her.

The relation of pelvic diseases to insanity is a subject I approach with diffidence. Alienists, as a rule, pay but little attention to the subject, and the statistics do not seem to show a very marked influence of the pelvic diseases as an etiologic factor.

Thinking that I might gain some interesting information, I secured the addresses of about 10 women physicians who are residents in the female departments of insane asylums, asking for some statistics on the subject. One letter came back unclaimed, one or two were unanswered, the others were answered in a most friendly spirit, but, on the whole, the result was unsatisfactory. In several instances the women had only been in charge a short time, and while planning to do systematic work along this line, have not been able to accomplish it as yet.

In answer to the question whether all women patients were examined locally on admission, the majority answered that only such were examined as gave evidence of local disease. To make statistics valuable, all cases, so far as possible, should be examined, as often the history is imperfect, the patient stupid and uncommunicative, an analgesic condition of the organs and delusional reasoning being apt to mislead. In those hospitals where it is the rule to examine all cases the percentage apparently due to pelvic troubles varies from two to five per cent.

In answer to the question, "What form of insanity is most commonly due to these troubles?" the form most commonly given was melancholia. In puerperal insanity the patients very

frequently become maniacal. Of the cases examined about 60 per cent. require local treatment; one physician says five per cent. As regards operative treatment, the replies were very unsatisfactory. The local results were beneficial, but the majority failed to see mental improvement corresponding to the local improvement.

In looking through the journals one occasionally finds reports of operative proceedings in insane cases that are very encouraging. In a paper by George H. Rohé, read before the Section of Psychology at the meeting of the British Medical Association at Montreal, in 1897, he says that although asylum physicians recognize the important relations of somatic diseases to mental disturbances it is probable that too many "reckon with the cortex" too exclusively in diagnosis and treatment. The cortex is the field of action in which the exciting cause of mental disturbances manifests its activity. But to be logical we must seek below the cortex for the morbid cause. In his examinations, 60 per cent. had some abnormal condition of pelvic organs, not always grave or requiring treatment, but nevertheless, distinct and easily recognized. In 34 cases operated on since 1891, 11 made a complete recovery. Nine were improved, some very decidedly, 11 were unimproved mentally, and there were three deaths consequent upon the operation. The total recovery-rate was 32 per cent.

A. T. Hobbs, of the Asylum for the Insane, London, Ont., states that out of 80 cases operated upon, there were $37\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. mental recoveries, $22\frac{1}{2}$ improved condition, 35 per cent. no change mentally, and in four or five per cent. death followed. In a report of five hysterectomies by Dr. Isabel Davenport, of Kankakee, Ill., one died, one recovered mentally, two have not improved, and the fifth, an epileptic, has improved. She does not believe that diseased pelvic organs cause insanity, but that they may be the exciting cause in cases of unstable mental caliber.

Chapin, of the Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane, in his book on "Insanity" says that, as a rule, which is established by uniform experience in the largest proportion of cases, insanity is not a disease of sudden development but has an incipient, formative, and

prodromal stage. It will appear that the patient has a neurotic heredity and unstable mental and physical organization either acquired or inherited. In these cases a neurasthenia, which may be produced, as we have seen, by pelvic diseases, develops gradually into insanity. Chapin says that as a factor in the production of insanity, neurasthenia must be considered the most important. The largest proportion of hospital admissions, received in the acute stage, have a history of neurasthenia. It is fitly called "the soil" out of which insanity develops.

That local treatment combined with proper medical and hygienic treatment will sometimes produce very satisfactory results was shown by a case I had under my care during the past winter. The patient was a woman of about 50 years of age with the history of having an attack of melancholia about 25 years ago, for which she was finally sent to an insane asylum. The duration of that attack was about two years. Since then she has been a little odd, but has raised a large family of children and has always been a very hard-working woman. In the fall of 1897 the patient had an attack of herpes zoster and seemed to be somewhat run down physically. She took very little medicine, however, but in the latter part of November, after having had quite a severe cold, announced to her family that she was going to die on a certain Sunday. The Monday following she said that her body was dead, that only her spirit was living, and that some dreadful calamity was going to happen. She wanted to go away to an insane asylum for her children's sake, so they should not see it when it came. She also said that her soul was lost and that there was no hope for her. She could not read a newspaper, for everything she read was about herself and her lost condition. Her physical condition was one of great depression, her digestion was very much impaired, constipation marked, heart weak, and pulsation rapid, throbbing very noticeable in the carotids. She seemed very weak, but said she had no pain because she was dead and, of course, had no feeling. For that reason also she objected to treatment of any kind, saying it would do no good. Still, she constantly kept her hand on top of her head, and after some questioning, admitted that there was a great deal of heat there.

Thinking there might be some uterine trouble, I made a local examination and found some erosion of the cervix with considerable tenderness of the body of the uterus. There was no evidence of endometritis. Not very hopefully, I began giving her local treatment, as in the case mentioned above, and at the same time gave tonics and digestants internally. It was necessary also to give her the bromids occasionally. Her improvement, though slow, was steady, and by the end of a month and a half she had practically recovered, giving up her delusions one by one. Her physical condition improved more slowly than her mental condition. About a month ago a slight recurrence of some of the symptoms—pain on top of her head, and weak and irritable heart—made it necessary to resume treatment for a week or so. The symptoms were very readily relieved by a very few applications.

It would seem that in all cases where there is any possibility of there being any pelvic disease, even if the patient makes no complaint, it would be the part of wisdom at least to make an examination, and if indicated, try the effect of treatment before the mental aberration becomes permanent.

* * * * *

As it seems most probable that I will not be able to be present at this meeting, I wish to express my deep regrets and to take this opportunity of thanking you all most heartily for the honor you bestowed upon me at the last summer meeting. You have been most kind and courteous, and I shall always remember my association with you with pleasure and gratitude.

POSTPARTUM HEMORRHAGE.¹

By B. S. POLLAK, M.D., of Pottsville, Pa.

In choosing this subject I have considered the fact that this complication of labor is of comparatively infrequent occurrence. However, it is a subject that is sufficiently interesting to merit an occasional review. We can agree with ex-President Cleveland when we say that in postpartum hemorrhage we have a condition and not a theory confronting us. While we agree

¹ A paper read before the Schuylkill County Medical Society, July 5, 1898. Official report.

that its occurrence is seldom, we must admit that its presence taxes, to the utmost, the obstetrician's ingenuity. To substantiate the statements which I have made, permit me to quote Herman who, in 1892, in the *British Medical Journal*, gives the following statistics: Of Guy's Hospital, there was but one serious case of postpartum hemorrhage out of 2,040 labors; St. Thomas Hospital one in 2,172; and in Prussia, according to Hegar, one in 3,131 cases. Herman further states that, taking into consideration the foregoing statistics, it is apparent that the large number of cases of postpartum hemorrhage that have been recently reported to have been successfully treated with iodoform gauze were no cases of postpartum hemorrhage at all. My experience with these cases does not entitle me to express the opinion of Spiegelberg, who has said that almost every case of this complication is due to the carelessness of the attendant.

The most important causative factor of this complication is atony of the uterus, and for this reason it has been called atonic bleeding. The causes of the failure of the uterine muscles to contract are many, and they have been observed after a brief as well as a long labor. It may be due to the destruction of the uterus, to multiple pregnancy, or to amnial dropsy. Prolonged anesthesia seems to be a predisposing factor. Penrose, in a paper before the American Gynecological Society, states that this condition is very often due to a morbid adhesion of the placenta to the uterus. Here the condition is reversed; we may find increased contraction instead of atony.

Vest attributes one of the causes to paralysis of that portion of the uterus to which the placenta has been attached. It may be due to hemophilia or to placenta previa. A frequent pulse is very often the indicator of postpartum hemorrhage. The patient may think she is washing too much or flooding, but after all I think we all agree with the late Professor Wallace, who used to say that the pallor of the face and disorder of some of the senses—ringing in the ears or obscurity of vision followed by the exclamation of the patient that the room is getting dark—are the most important symptoms. Not only the face is pale, but the pulse is feeble and frequent, the respiration is shallow, the skin bathed in sweat, and the patient in the hunger for air

wants the windows opened. Possibly, convulsions occur; and, quoting R. C. Norris, of Philadelphia, woe to the patient whose attendant mistakes these convulsions for an eclamptic seizure. The hemorrhage is either external or internal, and it is easy to differentiate the two by methods that are well known to all and do not necessitate any further consideration.

In taking up the treatment of this complication, we must consider rapidly and intelligently to principles—the first to lessen the flow of blood, and the second to excite uterine contraction. Possibly the first thing to do is to lower the patient's head and raise the foot of the bed. As this is one of the most dangerous complications of labor, it is important that the physician should have proper control over himself as well as all those that may be present. Indecision on his part may cause not only the loss of life to the patient, but a panic among those present. Instant pressure of the uterus by firmly grasping the same through the abdominal wall is made to excite friction and thereby cause contraction. The introduction of one hand into the womb, and the other placed upon the patient's abdomen, is necessary to dislodge any part of any adherent placenta that may be present. It is important to remember that we have before us a widely distended and gaping womb which is ready to receive within its remotest recesses, germs of any description that may be hovering around the genital canal.

It is therefore our duty not to forget the importance of the strictest antisepsis. Frequent douching with some disinfecting solution must be resorted to, and possibly the best of them all is the one that was brought to our attention at our last meeting by Dr. P. O'Hara. I refer to potassium permanganate. Ergot or ergotol may be used hypodermatically with the hope of stimulating the contraction of the uterus. The use of wet towels upon the abdomen, the introduction of ice within the body of the uterus, and the like are all, if judiciously used, of great service and often accomplish the object. If the patient be much exhausted, Xecher's plan of injecting, hypodermatically, sulphuric ether is advocated by many.

Penrose has, for many years, advocated the introduction of vinegar within the body of the uterus. This plan I have adopted

in all the cases that have come under my notice, and have thus far been able to attribute all the success that I have had to this treatment. The fact of the matter is that any foreign substance introduced into the cavity of the uterus acts as an irritant and thereby causes contraction of the womb. Dr. Robert Barnes strongly advocates the injection of a solution of perchlorate of iron. This method, however, has many who condemn it. Hot water injections are also serviceable. Bi-manual compression is another method of arresting uterine hemorrhage. This is done by placing the patient upon her back, the limbs are drawn up, and one hand that has previously been carefully disinfected, is introduced into the vagina and thus pressure is made upon the posterior part of the cervix. The other hand is making counter-pressure through the abdominal wall upon the body of the uterus. Bandaging of the abdomen may be resorted to with success. Tamponing of the uterus with iodoform gauze and substances of that kind which may have been thoroughly sterilized, may be introduced and thus cause contraction of the uterus. Compression of the abdominal aorta seems to be a rational mode of procedure, and should be given a trial. The question whether the clot, if there be any, should remain within the body of the womb, has been discussed for the last century, and there are many who say emphatically, tear out the clot; there are not a few of the opponents, however, who maintain that the clot should remain. Supposing that the hemorrhage has been controlled by one or the other of the methods mentioned, it becomes necessary for us to consider the means for compensating the loss of blood. Transfusion, subcutaneous and intravenous infusion of the neutral salt solutions will accomplish this object. The salt solution may be quickly prepared by taking a teaspoonful of salt, adding the same to a pint of water, which has been previously boiled and is at the temperature of about 100° F. Care must be taken that no air is introduced when resorting to intravenous injections. Hot salt solution should also be introduced by enemata. The convalescence of the anemia, resulting from severe hemorrhage, will be promoted by keeping the patient upon the broad of her back and by feeding her with milk, eggs, and the like. Few cases require alco-

holic stimulants. Many of them use tonics, such as iron, quinin, and strychnin.

In summing up this paper I wish to say that hemorrhage after labor can, in many instances, be prevented by administering immediately after the delivery of the child, dram doses of the fluid extract of ergot, furthermore by applying, in all cases without exception, tight abdominal bandages which will act as strong supporters of the uterus, and at the same time tend to compress the same and thus prevent some accidental bleeding.

Lastly let us say that experience has taught us that it is always better to stay with the patient for some time after the child has been born, and thus by zealously watching our patients, we will not only be able to prevent some accidental bleeding, but also many other trivial, however unpleasant, complications of labor.

AMONG THE SOCIETIES.

ASSOCIATION.

G. A. R. HALL, POTTSVILLE, PA., July 28, 1898.

The association met with Vice-president J. G. Mensch presiding.

On motion, the calling of the roll was omitted.

The following program was reported and adopted:

1. Roll-call.
2. Program reported.
3. Minutes of the last meeting.
4. Appointment of a Nominating Committee.
5. Report of the Treasurer.
6. Report of the Executive Board.
7. Election of members.
8. Action upon the special report of the Executive Board submitted at the winter meeting. For text of the report see the February number of the LEHIGH VALLEY MEDICAL MAGAZINE.
9. New business.
10. Address of the retiring president: "The Relation of Pelvic Diseases to Hysteria and Insanity in Women," by Mary Greenwald, M.D., of Stroudsburg, Pa.
11. Paper: "Subcutaneous Nailing in Fractures with Unusual Tendency to Displacement:" by John B. Roberts, A.M., M.D., of Philadelphia.

12. Address: "Diagnosis of Renal Calculi by Means of the X-rays," by Max J. Stern, M.D., of Philadelphia.
13. Report of the Nominating Committee.
14. Unfinished business.
15. Induction of the president-elect.
16. New business.
17. Adjournment.

The minutes of the previous meetings (annual and winter) were read and approved.

The chair appointed the following Nominating Committee: Berks County, Israel Cleaver; Bucks, J. N. Richards; Carbon, E. H. Kistler; Lebanon, J. C. Bucher; Lehigh, H. H. Riegel; Montgomery, J. E. Bauman; Northampton, A. A. Seem; Schuylkill, G. W. Farquhar.

The secretary read the report of the treasurer, which was, on motion, received and filed.

The Executive Board presented the following report:

Your Executive Board, in performing the duty of presenting an annual report to the association, has little of moment to record of history. The association held a very successful conversational meeting in January. At this meeting a special report was presented to you, which has been referred to this meeting for discussion and action.

There has been but one death in our ranks during the year, that of Prof. Theophilus Parvin, an honorary member.

Your board believes that the time has come for a growth in the usefulness and scope of the MAGAZINE. The Publishing Committee, in its report to the board make a recommendation which meets our approval. The committee, among other things, says: "Medical journals can only be supported (a) by their general excellence appealing to the profession at large; (b) by a special interest in the journal by a certain number of men who support it for a definite purpose; or (c) by making it practically a distributor of circulars of commercial houses. The third way is not to be thought of by an association like ours; the first is impracticable with the capital at our disposal. Besides, there are, already a sufficient number of each of these classes of journals.

"It is firmly believed by your committee that a medical periodical representing the medical societies of the territory covered by the association is of incalculable benefit to the individual physician and the various organizations. The MAGAZINE has not received the fullest cooperation in the past, which possibly may be caused by the organization of the MAGAZINE staff—no other association having any voice in the direction of its affairs. Your committee suggests that an effort be made to enlist the cooperation of the county societies in the MAGAZINE, making them, in

effect, part owners, and giving them a voice in the management. In this way the financial success would be assured and the *MAGAZINE* strengthened."

This recommendation is heartily endorsed by your board, and it recommends that you authorize the chair to appoint a committee of 15—one from each of the 13 counties represented in the active membership and two from the associate membership—this committee to be instructed to bring the subject to the attention of such societies as may seem to it wise and to devise such a plan as, in its opinion, will equitably secure the rights of all parties concerned, and that this committee shall have power to act, without first reporting to the association.

The following names have been dropped from the rolls by the constitutional provision for non-payment of dues for two years:

W. J. Ashenfelder, M. L. Bertollette, E. G. Bruch, J. Abbot Cantrell, J. R. Care, M. B. Dill, J. K. Henry, A. S. Jordan, P. H. Latham, A. N. Miller, D. W. Shelly, L. I. Shoemaker, M. Alice Swayze, J. Madison Taylor, W. T. Williams, and T. T. Zerbe.

The report was, on motion, adopted. On account of some misapprehension as to the character of the motion it was reconsidered, and on motion of Drs. J. N. Richards and H. H. Riegel, again adopted after further discussion.

The Executive Board presented a list of proposals for membership, with the recommendation that they be elected.

Drs. J. N. Richards and W. H. Hartzell were appointed tellers, and after counting the ballots reported that they were unanimously elected.

The special report of the Executive Committee, presented at the winter meeting, was then considered. It was moved by Dr. J. N. Richards and seconded by Dr. E. H. Kistler, that paragraph 5, of proposition 1, be stricken out and the proposition as amended be adopted.

After free discussion the motion was lost.

During the discussion a proposition was made which was now put in the form of a motion and adopted by the association, as follows:

Resolved, That one member of the association in each county of its active membership be appointed to act as a committee in connection with the secretary for the purpose of increasing the membership and the collection of dues.

A communication was received from the Pottsville hospital in

which an invitation was extended to the members of the association to visit the hospital. The invitation was accepted with the thanks of the association.

Dr. Charles H. Ott, of Sayre, in the absence of the president, read her address entitled "The Relation of Pelvic Diseases to Hysteria and Insanity in Women."

At the conclusion of its reading, the association passed a vote of thanks for the paper and of regrets for the enforced absence of the president.

Dr. John B. Roberts, who was to have delivered the annual address, but was prevented on account of an unexpected trip to Europe, presented a paper on "Subcutaneous Nailing in Fractures with Unusual Tendency to Displacements," which was read by the secretary.

The annual address was delivered by Dr. Max. J. Stern, of Philadelphia, who very kindly accepted the invitation to fill Dr. Roberts' place at the last. The subject of his address was "Diagnosis of Renal Calculi by Means of the X-rays."

At the conclusion of the address, the thanks of the association were extended to Dr. Stern, and a copy of the paper requested for publication.

The Nominating Committee submitted the following report :

President—Dr. J. E. Bauman, Telford.

Vice-presidents—1st, Dr. C. D. Schaeffer, Allentown ; 2nd, Dr. G. H. Halberstadt, Pottsville ; 3rd, Dr. A. A. Seem, Bangor ; 4th, Dr. J. A. Horn, Mauch Chunk.

Secretary—Dr. Charles McIntire, Easton.

Assistant Secretary—Dr. W. P. Walker, South Bethlehem.

Treasurer—Dr. Abram Stout, Bethlehem.

Additional Members of the Executive Board—Berks County, Dr. H. S. Reeser, Reading ; Bucks, Dr. J. N. Richards, Falsington ; Carbon, Dr. C. J. Hoffman, Morea Colliery ; Hunterdon, Dr. O. H. Sproul, Flemington ; Lebanon, Dr. I. R. Bucher, Lebanon ; Lehigh, Dr. R. W. Young, Slatington ; Luzerne, Dr. L. H. Taylor, Wilkesbarre ; Monroe, Dr. J. P. Mutchler, Stroudsburg ; Montgomery, Dr. J. G. Mensch, Pennsburg ; Northampton, Dr. W. L. Estes, So. Bethlehem ; Northumberland, Dr. Mary McCay Wenck, Sunbury ; Schuylkill,

Dr. David Taggart, Frackville; Warren, Dr. J. H. Griffith, Phillipsburg.

Appointments for the winter meeting : 1. Paper on Surgery, by Dr. C. H. Ott, of Sayre ; 2. Paper on Medicine, by Dr. J. T. Howell, of Wilkesbarre ; 3. Paper on Obstetrics, by Dr. A. H. Halberstadt, of Pottsville.

The secretary was authorized to cast a ballot for the nominees and they were duly elected.

The Executive Board recommended additional applicants for membership. A ballot was taken and they were elected.

The chair announced the following committees :

Committee on Developing the Usefulness of the MAGAZINE : Berks County, Dr. Israel Cleaver, Reading ; Bucks, Dr. J. N. Richards, Falsington ; Carbon, Dr. J. G. Zern, Lehighton ; Hunterdon, Dr. G. N. Best, Rosemont ; Lebanon, Dr. I. R. Bucher, Lebanon ; Lehigh, Dr. H. H. Riegel, Catasauqua ; Luzerne, Dr. L. H. Taylor, Wilkesbarre ; Monroe, Dr. Mary Greenwald, Stroudsburg ; Montgomery, Dr. J. W. Groff, Harleysville ; Northampton, Dr. W. L. Estes, So. Bethlehem ; Northumberland, Dr. Mary McCay Wenck, Sunbury ; Schuylkill, Dr. G. W. Farquhar, Pottsville ; Warren, Dr. J. H. Griffith, Phillipsburg.

Associates, Dr. C. H. Ott, Sayre ; Dr. D. W. Sturdevant, Laceyville.

Committee to Cooperate with the Secretary in Increasing Interest in the Association : Berks County, Dr. W. Murray Weidman, Reading ; Bucks, Dr. A. F. Myers, Blooming Glen ; Carbon, Dr. J. B. Tweedle, Weatherly ; Hunterdon, Dr. O. H. Sproul, Flemington ; Lebanon, Dr. J. C. Bucher, Lebanon ; Lehigh, Dr. W. H. Hartzell, Allentown ; Luzerne, Dr. C. P. Knapp, Wyoming ; Monroe, Dr. J. P. Mutchler, Stroudsburg ; Montgomery, Dr. J. E. Bauman, Telford ; Northampton, Dr. F. H. Erwin, So. Bethlehem ; Schuylkill, Dr. G. H. Halberstadt, Pottsville ; Warren, Dr. W. C. Albertson, Belvidere.

The chair appointed Drs. Estes and Hartzell to induct the president-elect.

Dr. Bauman thanked the society for the honor conferred upon him.

On motion, Dr. M. J. Stern was elected an honorary member of the association.

The following resignations were, upon recommendation of the Executive Board, accepted: Dr. J. B. Walter, Solebury; Dr. A. W. Watson, Philadelphia; Dr. W. S. Erdman, Richlandtown; Dr. A. R. Wilson, Indiana; Dr. L. A. Salade, Philadelphia.

On motion, the society adjourned.

The following persons, whose applications were approved by the Executive Board, were elected to membership by the association: D. W. Bland, Pennsylvania Medical College, '57, Pottsville, Pa.; John T. Carpenter, University of Pennsylvania, '55, Pottsville, Pa.; A. P. Carr, University of New York, '60, St. Clair, Pa.; E. B. Castle, University of Pennsylvania, '97, Hazleton, Pa.; D. R. Davis, University of Pennsylvania, '93, Lansford, Pa.; W. D. Erdman, Medico-Chirurgical, '96, Buckingham, Pa.; J. H. Hagenbuch, Jefferson College, '94, Mahanoy City, Pa.; A. H. Halberstadt, University of Pennsylvania, '53, Pottsville, Pa.; Frank P. Lytle, University of Pennsylvania, '94, Branchdale, Pa.; H. D. Michler, University of Pennsylvania, Easton, Pa.; C. B. Smith, College of Physicians and Surgeons, '91, Washington, N. J.; Wm. Stites, University of Pennsylvania, '68, Washington, N. J.; W. P. Walker, University of Pennsylvania, '95, So. Bethlehem, Pa.

The following members and visitors were registered during the meeting:

C. W. Bankes, Middleport.	Israel Cleaver, Reading.
J. E. Bauman, Telford.	H. W. Deckert, Mahanoy City.
J. C. Biddle, Fountain Springs.	W. B. Erdman, Macungie.
D. H. Bland, Pottsville.	B. S. Erwin, Mauch Chunk.
P. O. Bleiler, Girardville.	W. L. Estes, South Bethlehem.
H. C. Bowman, Mahanoy City.	George Farquhar, Pottsville.
J. F. Bower, Reading.	B. C. Gulden, Minersville.
G. F. Brendle, Mahanoy City.	J. H. Hagenbuch, Mahanoy City.
A. F. Bronson, Girardville.	A. H. Halberstadt, Pottsville.
J. C. Bucher, Lebanon.	G. H. Halberstadt, "
James S. Carpenter, Pottsville.	W. H. Hartzell, Allentown.
John T. Carpenter, "	Phain Hermany, Mahanoy City.
A. P. Carr, St. Clair.	C. J. Hoffman, Morea Colliery.

E. H. Kistler, Lansford.	N. W. Reichard, Bangor.
P. J. Kress, Allentown.	P. H. Renn, Sunbury.
D. J. Langton, Shenandoah.	J. N. Richards, Fallsington.
C. Lenker, Schuylkill Haven.	J. W. Richards, Slatington.
Thomas Lewis, Mahanoy City.	H. H. Riegel, Catasauqua.
R. J. Linderman, Philadelphia.	V. T. Roth, Pottsville.
W. R. Longshore, Hazleton.	A. A. Seem, Bangor.
Frank P. Lytle, Branchdale.	W. L. Shindle, Sunbury.
Charles McIntire, Easton.	W. C. Smith, St. Clair.
James MacKellar, Hazleton.	M. J. Stern, Philadelphia.
D. C. Malone, South Bethlehem.	Abraham Stout, Bethlehem.
J. P. Merkle, Llewellyn.	J. Harry Swaving, Pottsville.
J. G. Mensch, Pennsburg.	M. Alice Swayze, "
G. H. Moore, Schuylkill Haven.	David Taggart, Frackville.
J. P. Morris, St. Clair.	W. Murray Weidman, Reading.
P. H. O'Hara, Pottsville.	J. H. Wilson, Bethlehem.
C. H. Ott, Sayre.	R. W. Young, Slatington.
B. S. Pollak, Pottsville.	

EXECUTIVE BOARD.

The old Executive Board held two sessions at Pottsville and the new board one. There was a quorum present at each session.

At the first session the bills for various expenditures since the winter meeting were presented and ordered to be paid. Applications for membership were examined and acted upon. The report of the Publishing Committee was read and discussed, and action was taken on the suggestions.

At the second session additional applications were examined and passed upon, and the board adjourned *sine die*.

The new board elected Dr. W. P. Walker, the assistant secretary, as one of the editors of the MAGAZINE, and selected Bethlehem as the place for the winter meeting, adjourning to meet in Bethlehem on the evening before the meeting of the association.

BUCKS COUNTY.¹

The midsummer meeting of the Bucks County Medical Society, was held at Bristol, on August 3d, with the president and secretary in their places. The following were present: Drs. John Bacon, John A. Crewitt, Horace Fleckenstine, A. R. Groom, E. J. Groom, E. C. Hancock, Wm. H. Kunsman,

¹ Official report.

Henry Lovett, J. King Love, A. F. Myers, R. H. G. Osborne, Howard Pursell, J. N. Richards, C. B. Smith, H. L. Thomas, and A. S. Wilson.

Dr. W. H. Stettler (Bell. Hosp. Med. Coll., '91), Spinnertown, and Dr. Andrew C. Biehn (Jefferson, '93), Richland Center, were elected active members of this society.

Applications for membership were made by Dr. J. B. Correll, Hatboro; Dr. Wm. H. Kunsman, Morrisville; and Dr. J. King Love, Yardley.

Dr. J. N. Richards, as chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, reported the progress made so far concerning the celebrating of the 50th anniversary in November. Details of the work of the committee were given; who are to make the addresses; and it is planned to have a general session, to be followed by a banquet, to which various representatives will be invited and short addresses and toasts given.

Dr. R. H. G. Osborne, of Morrisville, read a paper entitled "A Few Thoughts upon the Comprehensiveness of the Medical Vocation." The paper was an excellent production, and highly appreciated; it will be published later.

Dr. Chas. B. Smith, reported a series of cases of diphtheria that were intubated, one reintubated, and the final result.

By request, Dr. Crewitt, reported a case of fracture of the skull that occurred some time ago. A man was kicked almost in the center of the forehead by a mule. The cork of the shoe made a depression one-half inch deep and one and one-half inches in diameter.

Dr. T. H. Andrews, of Philadelphia, was also called and it was decided to elevate the bone but this could not be done without trephining, which was done and 13 pieces of bone removed. As soon as the pressure caused by the fragment was removed the patient became conscious. The skin was replaced and the usual dressing applied. The man made a rapid and perfect recovery.

The Lehigh Valley Medical Magazine.

PUBLISHED BY

The Lehigh Valley Medical Association.

For the Use of the Profession within the limits of its Active Membership.

THE SUMMER MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION.

For three successive summers the association has been opposed by meteorologic conditions at its annual meeting. At Wilkes-barre it was intensely hot ; at the Water Gap and at Pottsville the morning opened with a heavy downpour which promised a day's rain. Notwithstanding, there was a good attendance and a pleasant meeting.

Three items of business are worthy the emphasis of editorial mention :

1. The first relates to an apparent decreased interest in the association. Some members each year permit their membership to lapse, and it was suggested that this was due to possible defects in the organization or working of the association. The question was referred to the Executive Board, who submitted quite an elaborate report in January last, asking that action be deferred until the annual meeting. Neither of the suggestions proposed was adopted, but a substitute appointing a committee of one in each county to cooperate with the secretary in maintaining an interest in the association. To the members of this committee, for example, the names of those in arrears will be submitted. Not necessarily that the committeeman will act as a collector, but that he may learn, if possible, why he is permitting his membership to lapse, and to endeavor to prevent such action on his part. If this committee faithfully performs the duty given to it, it cannot fail of being helpful to the interests of the association.

2. The Publishing Committee has been conscious for some time that the MAGAZINE was not as useful as it might be, and asked for a committee to devise a method or methods to remedy this defect. A large committee was appointed to whom the whole

subject was intrusted with power to act. The MAGAZINE was established to be of direct service to a number of societies, most of them not strong enough to publish their transactions. It was hoped that the strong societies would be generous and cooperate with the weaker, but this has not been fully realized. This committee, among other things, will make an effort to secure a more extended cooperation.

3. Through a combination of circumstances, the old publishing committee was constrained to ask for additional editorial assistance, and the Executive Board elected Dr. William P. Walker, of South Bethlehem, the new assistant secretary, one of the editors of the MAGAZINE. This article is written before Dr. Walker has entered upon any of his duties, and the readers of the MAGAZINE can, consequently be congratulated upon this addition to the staff. Dr. Walker is a thoroughly trained physician, whose eyes are open to all that is new, and whose judgment approves of all that is good and true in medicine. While not looking for startling changes, we feel confident that each number will be stronger and of more value because of this addition to the editorial force.

NOTES.

We have received several circulars from the associate society of the Red Cross of Philadelphia, and can most heartily commend its appeal to our readers. The war for the Union demonstrated the usefulness of a sanitary and a Christian commission, both to supplement and complement the official departments of the army and navy. As a nation we are thankful and proud of the personnel of our army and navy; as a people we ought to demonstrate our appreciation by doing for them just what the Red Cross is endeavoring to do, and will do if the means are provided by our people.

The treasurer of the Philadelphia branch is William Hill, 308 Walnut street, Philadelphia.

* *

The morning the above was written the following was received, printed on a postal card:

To the Editor. Dear Sir: These few lines appeared in the editorial columns of the *Public Ledger* in the issue of August 5, 1898. They briefly and explicitly explain the work of the society. Kindly publish it with comment.

"The Red Cross Society is our army's efficient ally in Cuba. But for it the suffering and death among the troops would be far greater than they are. The Red Cross receives no aid from the Government, and has nothing to do with politics."

Very truly yours,

FRYSINGER EVANS,
For Executive Committee.

The weakness and defect of the Red Cross movement are shown in this. There is nothing easier than destructive criticism, and this seems to be the especial delight of several of our newspapers. Of course the Red Cross is an efficient ally, were it not it would have no right to live, and the moment it receives a government subsidy or enters into partisan politics, its usefulness is over. It appears as if these statements were made not so much to define the Red Cross but to disparage some other agency working in the same field. Many attempts of this kind to continue an unfortunate contention will cause the Red Cross to loose both the confidence and the sympathy of the people.

* * *

An editorial article in the *Philadelphia Medical Journal* of August 6, rounds out this requested criticism.

"The Red Cross, it seems necessary to say in all frankness, must be taught the limits of its office and duties. We find it requires not a little bracing of the moral fiber to write a line of criticism as to the outcome of so much praiseworthy sentiment; it also requires quite as much restraint to speak dispassionately of the proofs of sentimentalism gone mad, of rampant officiousness, of conceited intermeddling as the members of this organization have filled the papers with during the recent weeks. The consummate impertinence of the multiplied complaints and criticisms of the medical departments of the army and navy, and of almost every surgeon connected with them, is sheer nonsense. These men are quite as unselfish, and we are sure have better business-capacity and managing ability than their critics. We repeat our conviction that the management of the Red Cross is a deal too hysterical and vain, needs investigation of its receipts and disbursements, and, above all, needs the control of some common-sense *male* brain."

* * *

The following incident is vouched for to the writer. It

happened in one of the smaller cities in Pennsylvania where their hospital is too small to need the services of a resident physician. A little boy fell upon a pile of stones cutting his head. With the idea prevalent in the minds of many, the mother hastened to the hospital as the best place to secure the necessary treatment. Neither of the surgeons were there and could not be reached by telephone. The mother then told the nurse in charge that she would take him to her family physician, whereupon the nurse replied: "Sooner than have you do that, I will stitch up the wound myself," and she did. Of course it was thoughtless zeal and an intense loyalty to her hospital that impelled this action on the part of the nurse, and she did not intend her language to be as offensive as it sounds. At the same time the governing body of that hospital is culpable. Had they strict rules forbidding the treatment of all but the indigent, that nurse would have immediately sent the mother and her child to her family physician.

* * *

Dr. Robert L. Pitfield, of Germantown, Pa., reports an investigation of an outbreak of diphtheria in the *University Medical Magazine* for August, which seems to point to milk as the carrier of the infection. The report is a model of scientific painstaking in happy contrast to much that is done under the name of sanitary science. In a series of cases of diphtheria, culture tests showed the presence of the streptococcus pyogenes, along with the diphtheria bacillus. It was found that most of those attacked were supplied with milk from the same dairy. Cultures were made from the milk, the search for Loeffler's bacillus was negative, although the streptococcus was abundant. It was also found that many who had used the milk were attacked with an acute infected tonsillitis, and cultures from some of these throats showed numerous streptococci.

The stable and surroundings were far from clean, and there were remote possibilities of diphtheria contamination. With the possibility of the presence of the diphtheria bacillus in throats apparently healthy, one is hardly justified in concluding the conveyance of diphtheria by the milk, although it is possible. This much seems clear, that the milk caused a streptococcus infection, inducing tonsillitis. Whether it also produced

a mixed infection, diphtheritic in some of the cases, or, the previously present diphtheria bacilli finding a proper soil in the infected tonsillitis, does not appear. In either event, it is the part of wisdom to keep the milk supply in mind, in any outbreak of diphtheria.

AMONG THE PROFESSION.

Dr. Joseph P. Engleman, of Cherryville, Pa., has died since the last number of the MAGAZINE was issued. As Dr. Engleman was an active member in the Northampton County Medical Society, a further necrologic notice will doubtless be found in their proceedings next month.

Dr. Jacob S. Shimer, of Philadelphia, died July 28. He was born in Shimersville, Lehigh County, in 1836, was graduated from the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania in 1857, and began the practice of his profession in Bethlehem. About 30 years ago he removed to Philadelphia. *Phila. Med. Jour.*

The Luzerne County Medical Society held another of its charming summer meetings at the Hotel Oneonta, Harvey's Lake, on Wednesday, August 10.

Dr. John H. Fretz, has moved from Stockton, to Lambertville, N. J.

Dr. John S. Johnson of Riegelsville, Pa., died in July, aged 69 years. He was graduated from Jefferson Medical College in 1853.

PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

[The management is always pleased to loan any of these reprints to any of the readers of the MAGAZINE. Please enclose postage in your letters requesting them.]

Eastman, Joseph, M.D., LL.D., Indianapolis Ind. Appendicitis. *Reprint.*

Gross Medical College, Denver, Col. Circular of information.

Michigan State Board of Health. A quarter century of public health work in Michigan. 1873-1898.

Veasey, Clarence A., A.M., M.D., Philadelphia. A case of bilateral syphilitic ulceration of the palpebral conjunctiva. *Reprint.*

Weidman, W. Murray, M.D., Reading Pa. Address of the president before the Medical Society of Pennsylvania, Lancaster, 1898. *Reprint.*

Wolfe, Samuel, A.M. M.D., Philadelphia. Some physiologic and pathologic observations connected with disease and injury of the spinal cord. *Reprint.*

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across the sole of the foot to a point one-fourth of an inch anterior to the external malleolus. The extremities of this incision are joined by one arching upward across the front of the ankle. The foot is strongly extended and the joint opened anteriorly by dividing, first the anterior ligament and then the lateral ligaments. The soft parts are dissected from the bone, until the posterior part of the os calcis can be brought through the opening and the dissection carried along the under surface of this bone until the foot is removed. Next the flaps are lifted from the tibia and fibula until a section can be made at the anterior margin of the articular surface of the tibia. It is important in this operation that the plantar flap extend forward far enough so that the blood supply is not endangered and that in dissecting out the bones the knife edge be kept always close to the bones, otherwise the vessels are apt to be injured and the life of the stump put in danger.

The osteoplastic operations of Pirogoff and Le Fort are performed as follows. In Pirogoff's operation the same incisions are made as in Symes' operation. The ankle joint is opened anteriorly by dividing the anterior and lateral ligaments and the anterior upper surface of the os calcis brought forward through the articulation. The next step is to saw through the os calcis, leaving the posterior part undisturbed. The articular ends of the tibia and fibula are now divided so that all the articular cartilage is removed, the angle formed by these two lines of section being about 90° . The sawn surface of the os calcis is now brought in apposition to the sawn surface of the tibia and fibula, and the wound closed.

Le Fort's method is as follows: Three-fourths of an inch below the external malleolus, commence an incision which is carried directly forward to within half an inch of the calcaneocuboid articulation. From this point describe a curve with an anterior convexity over the dorsum of the foot following the line of the astragalo-scapoid joint until the inner border of the foot is reached, where it is carried backward and ended at a point one inch in front of the internal malleolus. Cut a plantar flap, also having a forward convexity joining the anterior limit of the straight incision on each side of the foot. Dissect up the

dorsal flap until the tibio-tarsal joint is exposed. Disarticulate the astragalus from the os calcis by entering a knife between the bones from the outer side, dividing the ligaments as far as possible. Remove the front of the foot at the medio-tarsal joint, after which the completion of the disarticulation of the astragalus is easily accomplished. Saw off the upper surface of the os calcis just below its articular surface. The tibia and fibula are next sawn through just above the articular surface of the tibia, as in Symes' operation. The two sawn surfaces of bones are brought together and the wound closed.

Before leaving these operations, I wish to mention the calcaneo-astragaloid disarticulation as performed by Malgaigne. This operation is done when, in an amputation through the foot, it is found that the os calcis must be removed. Divide the skin and tendo-achillis just at the level of the upper surface of the os calcis, carrying the incision forward and downward under the external malleolus and forward to the tuberosity of the fifth metatarsal bone, then curved across the dorsum of the foot, crossing the inner side over the anterior edge of the scaphoid, thence straight down and under the foot to a point half an inch beyond the center of the sole. From this point an incision is made directly back to the point of beginning. Carefully dissect the plantar flap from the bone, leaving nothing but the periosteum, until the calcaneo-astragaloid articulation is well exposed. Remove the anterior part of the foot at the astragalo-scaphoid articulation. Seize the os calcis with a strong pair of forceps and complete its removal. After this operation the cicatrix will fall upon the dorsal and external lateral aspects of the stump.

To sum up in a few words, the terminal phalanges of all the toes should be removed by disarticulation when it is found necessary to remove a portion of the entire thickness of these bones; the same applies to all of the second phalanges, except that of the great toe. The proximal phalanges of all the toes should be sawn through if the line of section is anterior to their middle. Posterior to this, disarticulation should be effected.

The metatarsal bones should be sawn through in preference to disarticulation, when three-fourths of an inch of the bone can be saved. Hey's operation should not be done, except when the

anterior portion of the internal cuneiform bone is diseased or injured. One-fourth of each cuneiform bone and one-half of the cuboid should be sawn off in preference to the sacrifice of tissue necessary to do Forbe's or Chopart's operation.

When we find that the cuneiform bones must be removed and the posterior part of the cuboid is not injured, Forbe's operation should be done.

As we proceed toward the heel, the next operation is that of Chopart, which should be done when the scaphoid is involved.

The subastragaloid operation or that of Pirogoff or Le Fort should be performed, when the condition of the soft parts will permit in preference to that of Symes, thereby avoiding about two inches of shortening.

As I said before, Symes' operation seems to be the favorite, and I think this is done a great many times when one of the others could be substituted and the patient greatly benefited. If the astragalus can be left in position the motion of the ankle joint is retained, which adds greatly to the ease and comfort of locomotion.

All of these operations and rules are very well to remember and I suppose every surgeon should be thoroughly familiar with them. They look well in the text-books and sound well in a lecture, besides being exceedingly good material for examination day; but the all-important question in amputations through the foot is, "How much can be saved?" In my opinion no tissue or bony framework is to be sacrificed for the purpose of doing somebody or other's operation. Find out how much tissue is destroyed or injured beyond hope of recovery and amputate just above it, whether it be an articulation or not, and I think just as good results will be obtained.

Always give the patient the benefit of the doubt if a question arises as to where to amputate, even at the risk of a secondary operation. With careful antiseptic precautions, tissues which seem almost entirely destroyed, may recover.

In presenting this paper it is not my purpose to impart information, but to bring out a discussion which, I hope, will be of interest and benefit to all of us.

AMONG THE SOCIETIES.

TRI-COUNTY SOCIETY.¹

The inaugural meeting of the Tri-county Medical Association, a society to be composed of the profession of Warren, Sussex, and Morris counties, New Jersey, was held at the American House, Hackettstown, N. J., on Tuesday, October 11th. The meeting was under the direction of a committee, previously appointed to prepare articles of association and for this meeting, with Dr. J. S. Cook, of Hackettstown, as president. The report of the Committee on By-laws, after sundry amendments, was adopted. A permanent organization was effected by the election of Dr. J. S. Cook, president, C. B. Smith, of Washington, as secretary, and F. W. Flagge, of Rockaway, as treasurer.

More than 30 enrolled themselves as members, at this, the first meeting.

After an adjournment for the discussion of an excellent dinner, the society reconvened and listened to the reading of papers by Dr. A. Harris, of Paterson, on "Troubles of the Obstetrician," and by Dr. H. A. Henriques, of Morristown, on "Diagnosis and Treatment of Appendicitis."

The organizers of this movement ought to feel encouraged by the success of their first meeting. We are hoping to have a fuller report for a future number of the MAGAZINE.

LUZERNE COUNTY.

After the usual summer vacation, the Luzerne County Medical Society resumed its regular semimonthly meetings on September 7th.

The paper of the evening, by Dr. J. B. Mahon, was upon "Gunshot Wounds with Cases." Dr. Mahon read a very interesting paper, closing with a burst of patriotic fervor in his allusions to the present war with its accompanying horrors of sickness and death. He exhibited an interesting collection of bullets, some of which had been gathered during the doctor's term as coroner of the county. The paper was discussed by Drs. Matlach, Weaver, and Taylor.

An added interest was given to the meeting by the presence of

¹ Editorial correspondence.

Dr. Weaver, surgeon of the 9th Regiment, who had just returned from camp, where, worn out by his arduous duties in caring for the sick, he had himself succumbed and remained as a patient for some days in a hospital in Lexington. He gave a brief, though graphic, description of the fever which prostrated the troops at Chickamaugua. The doctor received a regular ovation upon entering the room, and many a warm hand-shake and welcome-home at the close of the meeting.

The midsummer or outing meeting of the society was held this year at Harvey's Lake, at the spacious new hotel, Oneonta. A large number of members attended and listened to a very able paper by Dr. Knapp, on "Tumors." Dr. Buckman, in lieu of a direct discussion of Dr. Knapp's paper, read a translation of Boerhaave's treatise on the same subject, written 100 years ago.

At the second meeting, September 21st, Professor Wm. H. Dean, city chemist and water inspector, read a paper on "Water Supply." This was a carefully prepared and highly interesting paper, and was thoroughly appreciated by the society. Drs. Long, Taylor, and Weaver participated in the discussion.

Owing to the prevalence of typhoid among returning soldiers, and the great danger of contamination of water supplies, the local water company was urged, in resolutions passed by the society, to thoroughly police all streams, and to guard carefully against pollution of the same by typhoid fever germs.

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SOME POINTS IN WHICH OUR PRESENT COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY SYSTEM SEEMS INADEQUATE.

It has been our privilege recently to attend the meetings of two medical societies which so admirably illustrate a phase of our American professional life that this editorial notice is taken of them even at the risk of harping upon an old string so often twanged in these pages. The first was that of the Association of the Lehigh Valley Railroad Surgeons, which held its meeting in Wilkesbarre on the 4th of October. The MAGAZINE desires thus publicly to thank the association for its courtesy in making its representative a guest of that body, at that meeting. While the membership in this association is practically decided by the Lehigh Valley railroad authorities, it is but fair to say that they have exercised good judgment, and if any one should be so unfortunate as to need the professional care of a Lehigh Valley railroad surgeon, he will secure the most careful treatment possible.

The other meeting was the inaugural meeting of a society to be composed of members of the district societies of Morris, Sussex, and Warren counties, New Jersey; and here, too, the MAGAZINE feels that the courtesy extended was to its representative in his being a guest of the association, and assures the members thereof of its appreciation of the same. At this meeting too, were gathered together the more public-spirited members of the profession, and an excellent meeting was held. The meeting was held at Hackettstown, on the 11th of October.

These two societies represent two distinct phases in medical life worthy of study. The Tri-county Society, as the new organization is to be called, shows a weakness in our county med-

ical society system that must be fully recognized before the aggregation of societies centering in the American Medical Association will accomplish the dreams of its founders. The last edition of Polk's *Register* records the names of 83 physicians in Morris county, 33 in Sussex, and 45 in Warren, or 161 in all. Of this number, 35 prefer to call themselves by some distinctive characteristic, and thereby exclude themselves from the appellation of physician, pure and simple, leaving 126 who, according to the popular nomenclature, are known as regulars. Of these but 90 are to be found in the county medical societies of the three counties, according to the last published roll (1897). It is useless to say that these things ought not to be when they are, and to put the blame on the individuals not in the medical societies when they are not. There must be some reasons why the majority of them keep aloof, and possibly some of these reasons may lie in the county societies themselves. Thus we know of a certain county society, not at all differing in the character of its membership from the members of this Tri-county Society, where to have papers read at its meetings is an exception. The members gather together for a little social chat, talk about the professional and business side of their individual practices, take a meal at the hotel where they meet, and go to their homes. This is not because its members are not capable of reading papers, and are not interested in their profession, but if the entire number of physicians in the county were all members of the society, they would hardly furnish an attendance sufficiently large to prove an incentive for the preparation of a paper. Here it is that such societies as the Tri-county Society become useful. It unites a weak society with stronger ones, provides a larger meeting with increased enthusiasm, and yet takes its members from a sufficiently limited territory as to make them acquaintances and friends; so the freedom of the county society is not lost by the expansion of territory. Such societies, therefore, should be encouraged. The stronger county societies should be in favor of these meetings to aid their weaker brethren, the smaller societies, not only because they will be helped by the larger gathering, but also because they can be helpful by contributing of their experience to the general knowledge of the profession.

The meeting of the Valley surgeons represents another want not provided for by the American Medical Association system—the want of the specialist. It is not here contended that the sections of the American Medical Association do not provide ample opportunity for any specialist to present his views and to receive benefit from the discussion of his peers. But the American Medical Association meeting in various parts of the country and but once a year, offers these advantages to a comparatively limited number. The same assertion is true of the state society, when the state societies provide facilities of this kind, which they seldom do. Hence there is a desire of men, whose lines of practice are parallel, to meet with each other and confer for their mutual benefit. The danger of such associations lies in this, that the special practitioner is too apt to attend only the meetings of his special society and thus not to keep fully in touch with the profession as a whole. If it were possible, it would be better to have these smaller special societies meet in connection with some general society, even if the point of connection is one of time and place, not of organization.

When the wants of the local specialist can be fully met and the needs of the physicians in the smaller counties can be supplied, and a gathering of physicians in a comparatively limited territory can be made pleasant and profitable, the disparity of figures, as shown at the beginning of this article, will disappear and the only physicians not in affiliation with the recognized medical societies of the land will be those who are so old-schooled as to wish to tack to their name some special appellation, or those who are not worthy of professional affiliation.

NOTES.

The 13th Annual Report of the Robert Packer Hospital is on our table. The superintendent, Dr. Charles H. Ott, is continuing his good work, for which he has been given increased facilities. The annex to the hospital, affording a pavilion ward, operating and out-department rooms, has been completed during the year. The older parts have been thoroughly renovated and, in part, newly furnished. 265 house patients were treated during the year, including 11 remaining over from the previous

year; 11 have died; 232 were discharged; and 22 remained in the wards at the close of the year. There were 54 medical cases, with 3 deaths, and 211 surgical, with 8 deaths. Several of these were hopeless cases when admitted. The percentage of deaths eliminating hopeless cases equals 1.13.

* *

Dr. D. D. Richardson, the superintendent of the State Hospital for the Insane, at Norristown, recently reported to his board of trustees that the male wards were so overcrowded that over 300 patients were compelled to sleep in the corridors.—*Public Ledger*, Oct. 8, 1898.

* *

We are in receipt of the following, which is self-explanatory :
 “ To the Editor :

“DEAR SIR : — Generously publish the following :

“ The Associate Society of the Red Cross of Philadelphia is maintaining its hospital at Camp Meade. Patients too ill to be moved to city hospitals are taken there. Its capacity to receive all these cases is inadequate because of the society's inability to secure experienced women nurses for the nominal sum of \$16.00 per month. Nurses willing to make the sacrifice and to engage in this laudable work will kindly apply by letter or report to ‘The Committee on Nurses,’ 1501 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

“Funds are needed to meet the increasing demands made upon the society.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.”

* *

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

At a meeting of the faculty of the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania, on September 26th, it was decided to recommend to the trustees that, for the present, Dr. James Tyson, professor of clinical medicine, be given full and general direction of the department of medicine, and that four assistants, Dr. John H. Musser, assistant professor of clinical medicine, Dr. Alfred Stengel, Dr. M. Howard Fussell, and Dr. Frederick A. Packard, instructors in clinical medicine, be appointed to deliver, under Dr. Tyson's supervision, didactic lectures on medicine.

On account of the illness of Dr. John Ashhurst, (John Rhea Barton, professor of surgery,) it was recommended that Dr. J. William White, professor of clinical surgery, be, for the present, given full and general direction of the department of surgery. Recommendation of assistants in the department of surgery was reserved.—*Philadelphia Medical Journal*, Oct. 1, 1898.

AMONG THE PROFESSION.

LEBANON, Sept. 29.—Dr. Hiester Bucher and Miss Vara Kalbach were united in marriage at the home of the bride this evening, by Rev. Warren J. Johnson, pastor of St. John's Reformed Church. Only the immediate families and a few personal friends of the bride and groom were present. They will sail on Saturday for Vienna, where the groom will continue his medical studies.—*Philadelphia Public Ledger*.

Dr. Isaac S. Moyer, of Quakertown, Pa., died Sept. 7th, aged 60 years. He graduated from the Pennsylvania Medical College in '59.

Dr. Richard Dingee, of Newportville, Pa., died Oct. 6th, aged 70 years. He was a member of the class of '51, Jefferson Medical College.

Dr. Alfred M. Cooper, of Point Pleasant, Pa., died Sept. 15th, aged 68 years. We hope to include, in our November issue, a sketch of Dr. Cooper's life and work.

Charles A. Voorhees, a well-known physician, died on Tuesday, at his home, 827 North Sixth Street. He became ill with typhoid fever at Cape May Point, N. J., four weeks ago. Dr. Voorhees was born in Hunterdon County, N. J., in 1835. He studied medicine in the University of Pennsylvania, from which institution he was graduated in 1861. He had lived in this city for the past 14 years, and in Easton previously. In 1862, he received an appointment as surgeon in the Union army, but was unable to serve on account of ill health.

Dr. Voorhees was appointed physician to the Masonic Home, at Broad and Ontario streets, at its institution, in 1881.

From that year until 1895 he was chief of staff of physicians of the home. He was a member of Columbia Lodge, No. 91, F. and A. M., for a number of years. He was also, for several years, a member of the Twelfth Sectional School Board.—*Philadelphia Public Ledger*.

LITERATURE NOTES.

Langsdale's *Lancet* is to be known hereafter as the *Kansas City Lancet*, with Dr. J. Punton as editor-in-chief.

Dr. F. T. Rogers has resigned his editorial management of the *Atlantic Medical Weekly*.

MEDICAL SOCIETY TRANSACTIONS.

- I. MEDICAL COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS MEDICAL SOCIETY. Vol. xvii. No. 3. 1898. pp. 619-924.
- II. TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE FLORIDA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION. 1898. pp. 161.
- III. TRANSACTIONS OF THE MAINE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION. 1898. Vol. xiii. Part 1. pp. 239.
- IV. TRANSACTIONS OF THE RHODE ISLAND MEDICAL SOCIETY. Vol. v. Part 4. 1897. pp. 377-511.

I. The Massachusetts Society always demonstrates its right to live in its annual volume of medical communications. The *Annual Discourse* for 1898 was delivered by Dr. W. T. Councilman, of Boston, on the "Relation of Pathology to Medicine," a timely topic, since so many consider only the relation of drugs to symptoms. Thirteen papers follow this paper, and the trend of the present-day thought in medicine can be observed in the fact that six of them clearly indicate, in their titles, a discussion of some phase of the microbiology and its relations to disease. The *Shattuck Lecture* concludes the volume; it is on "The Influence of the North American Climate on the People," by Sir William H. Hingston, M.D., of Montreal, Canada.

II. The Florida Medical Association held its twenty-fifth annual session at Jacksonville, on April 26th. That it issues its transactions within six months, speaks well for the energy of the secretary, as so often the issuing of transactions of state societies is allowed to lag. However there has been an im-

provement of late years in this all along the line. This volume gives the minutes of a very interesting session, followed by the treasurer's report, showing a substantial balance. The remainder of the volume is given to the publication of the papers presented at the meeting. Dr. R. B. Burroughs selected for the subject of his address "Our Profession and Our Climate," a much written-upon subject, but as he speaks more particularly of the climate of the summer months, he adds considerable information for the general physician. He shows, from observations covering a period of 38 years, that the maximum temperature for July, August, and September was 93°, while he asserts that the humidity of Florida in the summer months is only 1.07 greater than the state of Minnesota. A full review of this address and the other valuable papers published in this volume would occupy more space than we have at our command.

III. The volume of the Maine Medical Association gives an account of its forty-sixth annual meeting. In accordance with the custom of several of our state medical societies, the annual oration is frequently delivered by a physician from another state. This time our fellow member, Dr. Roswell Park, of Buffalo, was the orator of the day, who delivered an intensely interesting address on "Iatro-theurgic Symbolism." The tenor of the address can be gleaned from the following paragraph: "I want to ask you to study with me for a little while the original signification of these pagan symbols, feeling that I can, perhaps, interest you in such a study, providing that it can be shown that almost all of these emblems had originally an essentially medical significance, referring, in some way or other, either to questions of health and disease, or else to the deeper question of the origin of mankind and the great generative powers of nature, at which physicians to-day wonder as much as they did 2,000 years ago. Considering, then, the medical significance of such study, I have been tempted to incur the charge of being pedantic and have coined the term 'Iatro-theurgic Symbolism,' which title I shall give to the essay which I shall present to you to-night."

Sixteen papers on medical and surgical subjects follow this address, which are very well divided over the various branches of medicine, and are followed by the discussion which is not in-

corporated in the minutes of the association, which is so often the case in reports of transactions.

IV. The members of the Rhode Island Medical Society are so situated that they are enabled to have four meetings during the year lasting a day instead of having a single meeting lasting several days, and yet be able to reach home on the day of the meeting. As in Maine, the orator came from outside of the state, being Dr. F. C. Shattuck, of Boston. Of the ten articles given in this number, three are devoted to laminectomy, including, in the three papers, four cases. This is in striking contrast with the experience of our surgeons in the Anthracite coal regions, since either of the hospitals devoted to the care of the miners would be able to present a larger number of cases than these from its wards in any year.

PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

[The management is always pleased to loan any of these reprints to any of the readers of the MAGAZINE. Please enclose postage in your letters requesting them.]

Adler, Lewis H., Jr., M.D., Philadelphia. Some remarks concerning rectal affections, with especial reference to the physical exploration of the rectum. *Reprint.*

Cheatham, William, M.D., Louisville, Ky. (1) Orthoform and extract suprarenal glands. (2) Glaucoma, with detachment of retina. *Reprints.*

Deardoff, A. G., M.D., San Francisco, Cal. Tuberculosis and its treatment by the later methods. *Reprint.*

Denison, Charles, A.M., M.D., Denver, Colo. The advantage of physical education as a prevention of disease. *Reprint.*

Fretz, Oliver H., A.M., M.D., Quakertown, Pa. A case of multiple mixed-celled sarcoma of the medulla oblongata and pons varolii. *Reprint.*

Marcy, Henry O., M.D., Boston, Mass. The aseptic animal suture; its place in surgery. *Reprint.*

Massachusetts Medical Society. Medical communications, Vol. xvii, No. 3, 1898.

Parke, Davis & Co. Therapeutic notes, September, 1898.

Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Tuberculosis. Report for the year ending April 13, 1898.

Rosse, Irving C., A.M., M.D., F.R.G.S., Washington, D. C. Golf from a neurological view point.

United States Department of Agriculture (Department of Botany). Bulletin No. 20.

University Medical College, Kansas City, Mo. Announcement for 1898-1899.

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The notes of cases given are included through the courtesy of Dr. W. L. Estes, physician and surgeon-in-chief of the hospital.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF BUCKS COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY.

BY A. F. MYERS, M.D., of Blooming Glen, Pa.

In the year 1847, representatives from 16 states met in the city of New York, for the purpose of forming a National Medical Society. In the following year, the convention met in Philadelphia and completed its organization and adopted its present name. In 1848, the Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania was organized at Lancaster, and the same year, the Bucks County Medical Society came into existence. The organization of the National Association, as was intended, incited the formation and stimulated the growth of subordinate societies. The organization of the Bucks County Medical Society was directly an outgrowth of that movement which was inaugurated, avowedly, for the purpose of developing a higher standard of medical education.

No better idea of the origin of the society can be given than by quoting from the minutes: "Agreeably to public notice, a number of the physicians of the county met at Newtown, on Wednesday, June 14, 1848, to consult upon the propriety of forming a medical society. Dr. Phineas Jenks, of Newtown, was appointed chairman, and Dr. Charles H. Mathews, of Doylestown, secretary.

"On motion it was resolved that it is expedient to form a medical society to be called the Bucks County Medical Society.

"On motion of Drs. Hendrie and Foulke, a Constitution and By-laws was read and, after much discussion and alteration, was adopted.

"Dr. Samuel Lilly, of Lambertville, presented copies of the By-laws of the Hunterdon County (N. J.) Medical Society, with an invitation to meet them.

"On motion, *Resolved* that we go into an election for officers of the society to serve until the annual meeting, in November, whereupon Dr. Phineas Jenks was elected president; Dr. C. C. Jennings, and Dr. Charles Foulke, vice-presidents; Dr. C. H. Mathews, recording secretary; Dr. Thomas L. Allen, corresponding secretary; and Dr. William S. Hendrie, treasurer."

Nineteen physicians responded to this call: Drs. Phineas Jenks, Thomas L. Allen, William S. Hendrie, Ralph Lee, Charles Foulke, Townsend Fell, Joseph S. Longshore, Charles H. Mathews, Abraham Livezey, I. S. Harris, Benjamin Smith, M. P. Linton, C. C. Jennings, Cornelius Baker, John D. Moore, Charles Mathews, Oliver P. James from this county, and "Drs. John and Samuel Lilly, of Lambertville, N. J., being present, were invited to take seats with us and participate in the deliberations of the meeting."

The 19 physicians present signed the constitution, naming their medical college and the year of graduation. The first name signed, and likewise the oldest graduate, was "Phineas Jenks, of Newtown, University of Pennsylvania, 1804." After various discussions and due deliberation concerning the organization, "on motion of Dr. Mathews, *Resolved*, that when the society adjourn, they adjourn to meet in Doylestown, June 28th, at eleven o'clock, Charles H. Mathews, recording secretary." Thus, briefly stated; is an account of the launching of the original Bucks County Medical Society.

Of the 19 fathers of the society who signed their names that memorable day, all are resting from their labors; the last one to join the vast majority was Dr. Abraham Livezey, of Yardley, deceased August 31, 1896.

Pursuant to adjournment the second meeting was held in the Beneficial Hall, Doylestown, June 27, 1848, and eight new members were admitted to the society. At this meeting the code of ethics of the American Medical Association was adopted as the code of the society. At this meeting Dr. John D. Moore presented his resignation, for what reason is not stated; and Dr. Mathews announced the death of Dr. John Lilly with appropriate remarks, whereupon suitable resolutions of condolence were adopted. This was the first loss, by death, of the society.

On November 22, 1848, the annual meeting was held in Doylestown, when again nine members were proposed and elected. The old officers were reelected to serve the ensuing year. Stated and regular meetings were held at various places with more or less regularity until January 1854, when a stated meeting was held at Doylestown. Then for a year this craft, which was launched under such favorable circumstances, was lost sight of, not for the need of a compass but for the failure to supply a quorum. In January, 1855, affairs adjusted themselves and the society again hove in sight. Meetings were held as before and new members added. The attendance, however, was small, usually only six or eight being present until November 19, 1856, when, without any assignable cause so far as searching the records reveals, the society dropped into *ennui*. Up to this date 59 names had been signed to the constitution.

Of the 59 physicians that had connected themselves with the society prior to November 19, 1856, when it entered upon that lonely lapse of seven years, Dr. I. Newton Evans, of Hatboro, Dr. A. J. Hines, of Doylestown, and Dr. Joseph Thomas, of Quakertown, are still among the living and enjoying a happy and prosperous old age. Our late member, Dr. A. M. Cooper, was also one of this group.

The period of quietude lasted for seven years. A new era was dawning upon the medical profession of the county and there were manifested signs of awakening the society from its slumbers. Accordingly a call was issued for a meeting to be held at Doylestown, for the purpose of reorganizing the society. The effort proved successful. In response to the call seven Bucks County physicians met in this place on October 31st, 1863, and *Resolved*, "That we reorganize the Bucks County Medical Society on the basis of the Constitution and By-laws of the old Society." Those present at the meeting and who signed their names that day were: Drs. James S. Rich, Wm. S. Hendrie, G. R. McCoy, Joseph Foulke, Oliver P. James, R. L. Cooper, and Benjamin M. Collins. At this meeting Dr. James S. Rich was elected president and Dr. Joseph Foulke, secretary and treasurer. Of these seven members who paid their initiation fee that day, only one remains in the flesh this day—Dr. Joseph Foulke, of

Buckingham. The meeting adjourned to meet in Newtown a month later, November 21, to perfect the arrangements so far made and again start the society upon a useful career. Dr. Richard Dingee, recently deceased, became a member and presided at this meeting. Dr. Hiram Corson, that nestor of medicine, was present at this meeting and addressed the society upon the importance of maintaining a vigorous and active organization. Up to this time the society had a peculiar way of migrating from place to place; but this was changed in January, 1864, when Doylestown was selected as its permanent abode. At this meeting, Drs. Evan J. Groom and R. J. Linderman joined and at the April meeting Drs. J. G. Mench and A. M. Cooper.

For several years the society flourished when, in some mysterious manner, interest began to wane, so that in May, 1873, the society barely existed. Meetings were held almost regularly, however, though at times just enough were present to form a quorum—five—and occasionally not this many. Our thanks are due to a half dozen physicians for keeping the organization alive during this period. By a careful study of the records for nine years succeeding 1873, we find that Dr. Joseph Foulke, the secretary, attended every meeting; Dr. G. R. McCoy, all but one; Dr. Joseph B. Walter missed two and Dr. F. Swartzlander, three. This worthy four proved, for the while, the mainstay of the organization.

In November, 1882, came a reaction. the society seemed healthy and in May, 1883, eight new members were elected. At this meeting the constitution was amended and four meetings a year provided for, as at present. At the April meeting, 1884, a new departure was instituted. Prof. J. E. Garretson, of Philadelphia, was present by invitation and explained the operation and use of the dental engine in surgery. After this the society made a permanent feature of procuring a physician, especially skilled, to deliver an address on some branch of medicine or surgery, which assisted wonderfully in making the meetings interesting.

At the November, 1884, meeting, Dr. Joseph Foulke, who had been recording secretary continuously since reorganization in 1863, a period of 21 years, declined a reelection. If the doctor

was absent from a single regular meeting during all these years, the minutes make no record of the fact. His is the longest record of continuous membership. He served faithfully and well,—a record worthy of emulation.

On November 22, 1888, the society celebrated its fortieth anniversary in a very interesting manner. Papers were read by Drs. Joseph B. Walter, Joseph Foulke, and Joseph Thomas ; and an address was given by Prof. William H. Pancoast, of Philadelphia. This meeting awakened an interest in the society and brought the fact of the existence of a live medical organization to the notice of the physicians of the county not members.

Since November, 1882, the society has steadily increased its membership : seven new names were added in November, 1882; ten in 1883 ; from two to six yearly during 1883 to 1896 inclusive ; eight in 1897; and nine in 1898. The total increase since 1882 was 79 members. During the same period 13 members were lost by death, 10 through removal, and eight have allowed their membership to lapse, making a total of 31. There are now 54 members in good standing. Since the organization of the society—50 years ago—140 names have been signed to the constitution. What an array of autographs,—representing a characteristic group of a noble and self-sacrificing profession.

AMONG THE SOCIETIES.

BUCKS COUNTY.¹

The fiftieth anniversary of the Bucks County Medical Society was celebrated in a fitting manner on Wednesday afternoon and evening, November 2, 1898, at Doylestown. The attendance in the afternoon was good, and much interest was manifested in the anniversary exercises. Dr. J. N. Richards, the president, and Dr. A. F. Myers, the secretary, were present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved, and various minor business matters transacted.

Dr. J. B. Carrell (Jefferson '76), Hatboro ; Dr. J. King Love (Jefferson '97), Yardley ; and Dr. Wm. H. Kunsman (Jefferson '84), Morrisville, were elected to active membership.

¹ Official report.

This being the annual meeting, the following were elected to serve during the ensuing year.

President—Dr. O. H. Fretz, of Quakertown.

Vice-presidents—Dr. R. C. Foulke, of Newhope, and Dr. A. S. Wilson, of Bristol.

Secretary—Dr. A. F. Myers, of Blooming Glen.

Treasurer—Dr. F. Swartzlander, of Doylestown.

Censors—Dr. G. M. Grim, of Ottsville; Dr. Wm. R. Stavely, of Lahaska; and Dr. Wm. R. Cooper, of Point Pleasant.

Dr. Wm. E. Doughty, of Hartsville, offered a resolution providing for a Committee on Necrology. Dr. J. B. Walter was chosen to draft resolutions on the death of our late member, Dr. A. M. Cooper, of Point Pleasant, and to prepare a sketch of his life for the society to spread upon the book of records.

Dr. Joseph B. Walter offered a resolution providing that the minute book, which has been used by the society for the past half century, and which is now about full, be deposited with the Bucks County Historical Society for preservation; also that the secretary be directed to close the book with a complete record of the proceedings of the fiftieth anniversary, place upon record copies of the papers read at this meeting, and procure a new minute book.

The following physicians participated in the anniversary exercises: Drs. Evan J. Groom, George M. Grim, J. N. Richards, A. F. Myers, Frank Swartzlander, F. B. Swartzlander, John A. Fell, E. E. Pownall, Richard C. Foulke, John A. Crewitt, Charles B. Smith, Milton S. Erdman, Abram S. Wilson, Howard A. Hellyer, Alfred E. Fretz, William S. Erdman, Howard Pursell, William H. Stettler, Joseph Thomas, William E. Doughty, Oliver H. Fretz, Joseph B. Walter, John H. Fretz, Noah S. Nonemaker, Isaac B. Roberts, James I. Cawley, Joseph Foulke, J. Ernest Scott, Wm. R. Cooper, Julia H. Slack, A. J. Hines, George A. Parker, J. B. Carrell, I. Newton Evans, and a number of invited guests. The laity was prominently represented and took a deep interest in the jubilee exercises.

The Committee of Arrangements, comprising Drs. J. B. Walter, J. N. Richards, Wm. R. Cooper, and F. Swartzlander, Jr., presented an attractive program, and its eminently successful issue reflected very creditably upon the committee.

Dr. Wm. R. Cooper, of Point Pleasant, read a paper, "Fifty Years of Bucks County Medical Society." He delineated the history of the organization in an interesting manner.

Dr. Joseph Thomas, of Quakertown, read a paper entitled "Fifty Years' Practice in Bucks County." The paper was well prepared, characteristic of its author, and highly appreciated by the audience.

"Fifty Years of Surgery" was very appropriately presented by the surgeon, Dr. F. Swartzlander, Jr., of Doylestown. This was another excellent production,—a concise portrayal of the various surgical advances made during this period.

"In the Next Fifty Years, What?" was the title of a paper presented by Dr. G. M. Grim, of Ottsville. This paper was also prepared with much care and gave evidence of close observation. The various comparisons were well given, and judging by the evolution of the past, the next fifty years look very hopeful.

The exercises of the jubilee meeting were concluded by a very enjoyable banquet, when the following toasts were proposed and responded to :

1. "The Bucks County Medical Society," by Dr. Howard Pursell, of Bristol.
2. "The Old Doctor," by Dr. Joseph Thomas, of Quakertown.
3. "The Young Doctor," by Dr. A. E. Fretz, of Sellersville.
4. "The Family Doctor," by Dr. J. E. Scott, of New Hope.
5. "The Doctor's Wife," by Charles B. Smith, of Newton.
6. "The Woman Doctor," by Dr. Julia Slack, of Bristol.
7. "The Quack," by Dr. J. B. Walter, of Solebury.
8. "The Court," by Hon. Harmon Yerkes (Judge of the County Courts), of Doylestown.
9. "The Specialist," by Dr. Charles P. Noble, of Philadelphia.
10. "The Army," by Gen. W. W. H. Davis, of Doylestown.
11. "The Medical Press," by Dr. Charles McIntire, of Easton.
12. "The Surgeon," by Dr. W. Joseph Hearn, of Philadelphia.
13. "The Ministry," by Rev. Rorer, of Bristol.

HUNTERDON COUNTY.¹

The Hunterdon County District Medical Society met in the grand jury room in Flemington, October 26th. In the absence of the president, Dr. Grim, Vice-president Moore, presided.

¹ Official report.

The following members were in attendance : Drs. Berkaw, Barber, Best, Boileau, Closson, Cornog, Cramer, Johnson, Knight, Larison, - Leidy, Moore, Romine, and Sproul. Dr. A. J. Stitz was present as a guest of the society.

Dr. G. L. Romine reported a case of cholecystitis. The patient, male, aged 64, had been under observation for several years during which he had been treated for septicemia, catarrh of the stomach and bowels, cerebral embolism, and, more recently, for frequently recurring attacks of biliary colic with jaundice. In the final stage he became greatly exhausted and died comatose. The *post mortem* revealed an enlarged liver, catarrh of the stomach, and a gall bladder, thickened, distended and partially filled with small calculi.

Dr. M. D. Knight gave a brief history of an interesting but obscure case. The subject was a young man who had been under treatment for between one and two years, and whose antecedents showed tubercular tendencies. Notwithstanding the taking of large quantities of good, nourishing food the patient rapidly emaciated. His trouble was apparently connected with his abdominal viscera, possibly tuberculosis of the mesentery. Quite recently he was taken to a hospital where an operation was attempted, a few days after which he died. No report, as yet, has been obtained from the surgeons in charge.

Dr. W. E. Berkaw interested the society by some remarks in which he criticized the management of certain camps and hospitals which were brought into requisition by the exigencies of the late war and which were outside of the seat of military operations. These remarks gave rise to a lively discussion, the trend of which seemed to show that the abuses complained of were more the result of inexperience than of criminal negligence and that the reports in the secular press concerning them were probably much exaggerated.

The Committee of Revision of By-laws reported that the manuscript was now in the hands of the printer and that copies would soon be mailed to each of the members.

The death of one of our most active members, Dr. Alfred M. Cooper, was announced as having occurred since the last meeting. The president appointed Drs. Berkaw, Best, and Leidy a

committee to prepare resolutions. Subsequently the following was offered and adopted :

WHEREAS : Death has again entered the ranks of the Hunterdon County District Medical Society and has taken from among us an esteemed colleague, Dr. Alfred M. Cooper ; and while we bow in submission to the will of Him who doeth all things well, we deem it but just and fitting that a record should be made of this sad event ; therefore be it—

Resolved, That we deplore the loss of one so intimately associated with us in the work of our society and do hereby express our profound sorrow at his departure.

Resolved, That in the death of Dr. Cooper, our society has lost an earnest member, one whose faithful attendance and zealous efforts to perform the duties assigned him, have endeared him to us all.

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread on the minutes of our society and that a copy of them be forwarded to the sorrowing family, to whom this society tenders its sincere sympathy.

Dr. E. D. Leidy was appointed to prepare a suitable memoir of the deceased for the *Transactions* of the Medical Society of New Jersey.

L. V. R. R. SURGEONS' ASSOCIATION.¹

The annual meeting of the Lehigh Valley Railroad Surgeons was held at the Sterling Hotel, Wilkesbarre, Pa., on Tuesday, Oct. 4, 1898. The following surgeons attended the meeting :

Surgeon-in-chief W. L. Estes, South Bethlehem, Pa. Local surgeons : L. E. Hollister, Newark, N. J. ; E. B. Dana, Jr., Metuchen, N. J. ; C. R. P. Fisher, Bound Brook, N. J. ; Edgar M. Green, Easton, Pa. ; J. G. Zern, Lehighton, Pa. ; J. B. Tweedle, Weatherly, Pa. ; G. M. Hamilton, Shenandoah ; J. C. Biddle, Fountain Springs ; S. W. Trimmer, White Haven ; W. G. Weaver, Wilkesbarre ; Herbert B. Gibbey, Pittston ; D. W. Sturdevant, Laceyville ; T. B. Johnson, Towanda ; C. H. Ott, Sayre, Pa. ; G. R. Trowbridge, Buffalo, N. Y. ; J. H. Brewster, Elmira ; Henry T. Dana, Cortland ; P. H. Latham, Beaver Meadow ; John H. Ewing, Flemington, N. J.

The association met at 10 A.M., President Dr. J. C. Biddle in the chair.

¹ Official report.

The roll was called by the secretary. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

A letter from Mr. Alfred Walter, president of the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company was read, expressing his regret at his inability to be present. Dr. J. P. Creveling, of Auburn, N. Y., sent a letter to the same effect which was also read.

Dr. Gibbey, a new member, was introduced.

A motion prevailed inviting visiting physicians to participate ; namely, Dr. Chas. McIntire, of Easton, Pa., managing editor of the LEHIGH VALLEY MEDICAL MAGAZINE, and Dr. Clouser, of Wilkesbarre.

The Executive Committee presented the following report which, upon motion, was adopted :

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee respectfully reports that during the year, one meeting was held. The delegates to the International Association of Railroad Surgeons were appointed. The company has ruled that only two members shall be appointed to represent our association at these meetings. Drs. C. H. Ott and J. G. Zern were appointed to represent us at the last meeting of the International Association. The place of this present meeting was also selected and Drs. Weaver and Gibbey, were appointed a Committee of Arrangements.

The secretary reports the finances of the association at rather a low ebb on account of the non-payment of dues of the assessable members. The committee begs to call attention to this and urges prompt payment on the part of the members, as the publication of our transactions will depend upon the dues collected.

The railroad company has, after consultation with the surgeon-in-chief, arranged a scheme for territorial distribution of emergency cases to the following hospitals along the line. This has the approval of the Executive Committee : St. Francis, Jersey City ; St. Michaels, Newark ; Easton City Hospital ; St. Luke's Hospital ; State Hospital, Fountain Springs ; State Hospital, Hazleton ; Wilkesbarre City Hospital ; Pittston Hospital ; Robert Packer Hospital, Sayre, Pa. ; Geneva Hospital ;

Elmira Hospital ; Emergency Hospital, Rochester, N. Y. ; Cortland Hospital, N. Y. ; Emergency Hospital, Buffalo, N. Y.

The attention of the members is called to this, and request made that as far as practicable the distribution be recognized and followed.

Niagara Falls is suggested as the next place of meeting.

(Signed) T. B. JOHNSON,
H. T. DAÑA,
E. M. GREEN,
W. L. ESTES,
Executive Committee.

The secretary presented his report showing that expenditures for the year amounted to \$8.82, (these expenses being paid each year by the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company). The sum paid to the LEHIGH VALLEY MEDICAL MAGAZINE for publishing transactions, etc., of the association, was \$20.75.

The amount received from members as dues, together with balance on hand Oct. 5, 1897 (\$14.85), was \$28.85. The balance remaining is therefore \$8.10.

The president appointed the following committees :

Nominating—Dr. G. R. Trowbridge, Buffalo, N. Y. ; Dr. W. G. Weaver, Wilkesbarre, Pa. ; Dr. S. W. Trimmer, White Haven, Pa. ; Dr. J. G. Zern, Lehighton, Pa. ; Dr. E. B. Dana, Metuchen, N. J.

Auditing—Dr. T. B. Johnson, Towanda, Pa. ; Dr. L. E. Hollister, Newark, N. J. ; Dr. G. M. Hamilton, Shenandoah, Pa.

The first paper of the day entitled, "Amputations Through the Foot,"¹ was read by Dr. J. Hall Brewster, Elmira, N. Y.

The paper was discussed by Dr. W. L. Estes, and Dr. J. C. Biddle, president.

The second paper entitled, "The Closing of Wounds," was omitted owing to the absence of Dr. J. P. Creveling, of Auburn, N. Y., who was compelled to be absent having been subpoenaed to attend court.

The annual address of the president was given by Dr. J. C. Biddle,² and he also presented a patient who had had a most extensive fracture of the skull some years previously, and who had

¹ See page 190.

² See page 181.

made a most remarkable recovery. The subject discussed by him was "Trephining" which was spoken of most thoroughly and instructively.

The address was discussed by Drs. J. B. Tweedle, W. G. Weaver, S. W. Trimmer, W. L. Estes, and L. E. Hollister.

On motion of Drs. Estes and Fisher, the papers of the day were referred to the Executive Committee for publication.

On motion of Drs. Estes and Green, a vote of thanks was tendered Dr. J. C. Biddle, president, for his address.

The Auditing Committee reported the accounts of the secretary as having been found correct, and the report was accepted and approved on motion of Drs. Tweedle and Ott, and the committee discharged.

Dr. E. M. Green gave a short verbal report of the meeting of the British Medical Association, in Edinburgh, which he attended during the past summer. He also exhibited a recent invention for aerating water. The invention was first exhibited in Edinburgh, at the meeting above-mentioned, and is given the unique title of "Sparklets."

Dr. Estes suggested that the recommendation of the Executive Committee, as to the place of next meeting, be discussed by the members present.

Upon motion of Drs. Fisher and Brewster, it was resolved that the recommendation of the Executive Committee that the next meeting be held at Niagara Falls, be adopted.

It was suggested that the Executive Committee report the place of meeting to the Railroad Company, and emphasize the same, and request transportation for the surgeons and *their wives*.

The Nominating Committee reported as follows :

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE.

President—Dr. W. G. Weaver, Wilkesbarre, Pa.

Vice-president—Dr. T. B. Johnson, Towanda, Pa.

Second Vice-president—Dr. L. E. Hollister, Newark, N. J.

Third Vice-president—Dr. E. M. Green, Easton, Pa.

Secretary—Dr. J. G. Zern, Lehigh, Pa.

Executive Committee—W. L. Estes, surgeon-in-chief (*ex-officio*); Rollin H. Wilbur, superintendent L. V. R. R. (*ex-officio*); J. G. Zern, secretary (*ex-officio*); D. H. Latham,

Weatherly, Penna. ; J. C. Biddle (Ashland), Fountain Springs, Pa. ; E. B. Dana, Jr., Metuchen, N. J. ; O. E. McCarthy, Niagara Falls, N. Y.

Delegates to International Association of Railroad Surgeons—
S. W. Trimmer, White Haven, Pa. ; F. F. Dow, Rochester, N. Y.

On motion, which was adopted, the secretary was authorized to cast the ballot electing the officers.

On motion of Drs. Hollister and Brewster, the meeting adjourned.

TRANSACTIONS OF MEDICAL SOCIETIES.

I. Transactions of the Iowa State Medical Society, Vol. xvi. 47th Annual Session. 1898. pp. 425.

I. We note, in Iowa, that the Nominating Committee is composed of one from each congressional district and county as in Pennsylvania ; that the Committee on Publication experience the common difficulties in securing the papers read before the society and the prompt revision of the proof experienced elsewhere.

The scientific part of the volume includes 46 reports and papers on various medical topics. Judging from those we have examined we would say that the nearly 300 Iowa physicians who were registered in attendance were amply repaid for the time given to it.

The Lehigh Valley Medical Magazine.

PUBLISHED BY

The Lehigh Valley Medical Association.

For the Use of the Profession within the limits of its Active Membership

• REACHING FORTH.

There was a grand old character who shone in the first century of the present era, and one of his sayings makes an excellent motto to direct our thoughts in the closing years of its second millenium : " Forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark." Were half the world Laura Bridgmans, or Helen Kellers, they need not be taught to realize that there is reaching-forth in the world's history ; that the assertion of the Italian Savant, despite the inquisition's torments, is true : the world does move, in other ways than Galileo asserted.

We are closing the ninth year of the Magazine, the last year beginning with 18 is soon to open. Shall we reach forth? What is the mark towards which the physician should press? Every physician, worthy the name, desires to be more successful in his efforts to cure disease ; to have more comfort of body and less anxiety of mind and worry of soul in his efforts so to do ; to realize that the opinions of his guild on subjects relating to his profession are received by the public and body politic with the respect due to them ; to feel that the good fellowship among physicians has grown to the degree where mutual forbearance will lead each one to strive for perfection in his own life without expecting it in his fellows. The progress towards the attainment of these devoutly to-be-wished ends, at the close of the 20th century, will be largely determined by the action of those who are living at the close of the 19th.

The discussion of the problems suggested is too vast for a single brief article ; let us limit our view to a very small portion. Of the many efforts made during the present century for the true development of the profession of medicine, one of the most am-

bitious and, at the same time, the most productive of good is the organization of the profession under the auspices of the American Medical Association. It has completed 50 years of existence, and its efforts to-day are essentially the same as during its earlier years. On general principles, it is safe to say that the American Medical Association is not perfect, without attempting to point out its defects. It has grown, is growing, and needs continually to grow ; but the delightfully comprehensive organization of the profession under the American Medical Association has failed in accomplishing its purpose, and will continue to fail unless there is a forgetting and a reaching-forth. A single item of testimony as to its failure is an article in the last number of the *Pennsylvania Medical Journal* by the secretary of the Medical Society of Pennsylvania in which he asserts that only 47 per cent. of the presumably eligible physicians in Pennsylvania are members of the county societies.

The county society is the most important unit of the American Medical Association. Other national societies can, and perhaps, do have as large and interesting meetings as the American Medical Association, but they are not backed up by the district societies over the land. If the county societies are active and efficient, one may be indifferent to the character of the larger meetings of the state and national organizations. It is a sad fact, but none the less true, that the county societies are only moderately successful even at their best estate, and the more rural the character of the county the less the enthusing power of the county society. The causes producing this are many and diverse and open another theme too fruitful to permit of discussion within the limits of this article. The assertion of the condition being accepted, there must be causes, and these causes must lie, in part at least, in the present condition of the county medical societies, and, unless there is a forgetting and a reaching-forth, these causes will continue to exist.

Sociologists divide all mankind broadly into two classes : The Progressives and the Retrogressives, and the members of the medical profession, in a limited degree, may be likewise divided. If there is to be a reaching-forth, it must be done by the progressive men of our craft at the expense of personal effort and

the expenditure of money without the hope of a personal return. Upbuilding always demands altruistic laborers; reaching-forth demands activity, permits the endurance of possible hardship, may, and frequently does, require sacrifice. The progress toward the desired position to be attained by our profession must be marked by expenditure all along the way. We must pay our share now, those that follow us must take up the burden where we lay it down, and that man is to be pitied whose professional soul is too diminutive to be unwilling to bear his part of the burden.

The Magazine has no panacea to suggest; no specific to exploit. As intimated, the problem is a very complex one. It believes that help can be given to a removal of some of the causes, and to increasing the usefulness of the county societies, if they will make a more systematic use of printers' ink. It is sad to reflect that so many of the medical journals, so called, are published with motives that are, at least, not altruistic! It is sadder to realize that the profession is willing to permit itself to be enervated by the use of these journals and to attempt to cast a mantle of charity over them! It is true there are too many medical journals, and if it were possible to reduce the number to a proper limit by the Ukase of some potential Czar, there would still be too many, for some of those that were left would be of the undesirable kind. There are medical journals and medical journals, and the excessive production belongs entirely to one class; there is need and room for many in the other class. This much to meet a possible objection.

If the county medical society desires to reach forth to greater influence and interest, it can be helped to accomplish this desire by promptly publishing all the papers read before it with an abstract of the discussion, and the transactions of the executive sessions. That this will cost money goes without the saying; it is one of the sacrifices demanded in the reaching-forth, but the expenditure can be reduced to a minimum by cooperation among several societies. To properly secure the cooperation, it is necessary for the larger and more powerful societies to deny themselves, to a degree, for the good of the more feeble organizations and join with them in the common venture; if they are indul-

ging in the luxury of volumes of transactions, to forego this luxury, cast in their lot with their brethren, and seek for the common weal. It is equally necessary for the weaker societies to enter heartily into the scheme and proportionately contribute to the success of the united undertaking. Many reasons might be mentioned why this plan will be helpful, but one will be given. Other things being equal, the interest any member manifests in a society is gauged by the number of times he is able to attend in any given period. If he is not kept acquainted with what is going on at those meetings when he cannot attend, his warmth becomes lukewarm and he is rapidly growing cold. Keep him informed and he is kept in touch with the organization and maintains his interest in it. From reasons which the writer of this article believes to be wholly of environment, the irregular attendance is apt to be found among the practitioners living in the country and smaller villages, and these, of all men, are valuable to the profession and whose opinion should be found in our medical literature. It is distorted, at present, because it does not present a very important phase of experience which these men can supply. The reports of these meetings should be full and complete and be received by every member of each society; hence, the requirements cannot be met by any journal of the ordinary kind. The journal should not give too much extraneous matter or it would be weighted with that which the member will not care to preserve, which is another objection to the attempt to use a general medical journal.¹

¹ "The value of the medical journal, as viewed from the standpoint of the individual physician, depends foremostly upon the relationship which that particular journal sustains to the practitioner's own field of activity. While every progressive physician is constantly expanding the horizon of his acquirements through access to journals, both local and general, yet it is the royal prerogative and bounden duty of every loyal Esculapius to cooperate primarily with his home medical publication, for it is to this source that he must look most expectantly for the advancement of his monetary, as well as scientific interests.

On this very point we have the testimony of several leading physicians of the city and state, who to-day are enjoying lucrative practice, to the effect that their work has been largely augmented and scientifically advanced through cooperation and identification, with their local journal. In contrast with this spirit of grateful recognition, there are no signs of disparagement to overcome. For instance, a subscriber recently came into the office with the request that his journal be discontinued, on the ground that he could get another from a distant state at the same price that contained more reading matter. Here was a lack of discrimination, which indicated the absence both of loyalty to home interests, and of judgment to employ facilities for the promotion of personal welfare."

—"Medical Journalism in Maryland," by Horace M. Simmins, M.D., manager of the *Maryland Medical Journal*. Read before the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland, at Frederick, November 16, 1898.

At the last meeting of the Lehigh Valley Medical Association, a committee was appointed for the purpose of devising plans for the reaching-forth of the Magazine. At a recent meeting of this committee, it was resolved to call the attention of the various county societies included within the borders of its active membership to this use to which the Magazine can be placed, and to offer them the use of its pages on a plan of partnership by which the receipts of the Magazine from all sources outside the money paid by the societies themselves will be proportionately divided among the societies to reduce the expenses of publication. The committee contains a member from each county and it is expected, the attention of each society will soon be called to this action of the committee. This article is written to bring the attention of the individual member to this action and to aid in the presentation of the conclusions of the committee.

One point has not been touched upon that needs consideration. Will not some such plan as this interfere with the success of the Journal of the State Society? Assuredly not, as a very simple statement will demonstrate. A hasty count of the last roster of the State Society in our possession shows an aggregate of at least 55 societies with 435 meetings each year. If the Journal of the State Society would attempt to do what is outlined in this article, its very bulk would defeat the project. Contrariwise, a little comity would give an element of strength to the State Journal were there a series of such journals throughout the state.

This scheme is the development of an idea suggested by the life of the Magazine ; its past experience makes it certain that the plan is practicable if it is entered upon with any enthusiasm by the societies, and is carried along with mutual forbearance. To make it successful will require also perseverance. Since the first year, and possibly the second, will not fully develop its value, but if persevered in, the beginning of the new century, when we are writing 1901, will show a reaching-forth towards a mark of higher standing that will cause us to rejoice that we forgot the things past and paid the price necessary to enter upon the new and better way.

NOTES.

The winter meeting of the Lehigh Valley Medical Association will be held at the Eagle Hotel, Bethlehem, on Thursday, January 26, 1899. The following papers may be expected :

1. "The Importance of Early Operation in Tuberculosis of Bones and Joints" by Charles H. Ott, M.D., director of the Packer Hospital, Sayre.
2. "Some Peculiarities Found in Examining Applicants for the Regular Army," by O. F. Harvey, M.D., of Wilkesbarre.
3. A paper on obstetrics—subject to be announced—by A. H. Halberstadt, M.D., of Pottsville.
4. "The Advantages of the Cataphoric Method of Destroying Cancerous Growths," by G. Benton Massey, M.D., of Philadelphia.

These papers will be open for discussion, and offer the usually attractive program for the winter meeting.

Members of the Lehigh Valley Medical Association are requested to send to the secretary the names of any friends to whom they desire invitations to be sent. Readers of this notice, not members of the association, will receive the full program upon application.

* * *

As some portion of the habitation of most individuals is composed of glass, one runs a risk in the indiscriminate hurling of rocklets. An esteemed exchange, in common with the thoughts of many others, was not able to see the necessity of the war with Spain. As a consequence, it has been showing up the evils ever since. Some weeks back it lost its usual balance and juggled with figures, comparing the statistics furnished in the war for the Union and the last conflict, showing, as it said, the decrease of battlefield mortality and the increase of suffering and death from disease in the late war. Those accustomed to compiling statistics saw, at once, the fallacy of the reasoning. It was assumed that the mortality rate from sickness was a constant one, and that the comparison of the totals in each war would be fair. This is shown not to be the case by a report recently made to the surgeon-general of the army by Deputy Surgeon-general

Smart. The comparison is made between the returns of the Spanish war and the first six months of the war for the Union, when raw troops were gathering in both cases, and the mortality from sickness was less in the late war than in the other. This mortality was too great in either war and calm discussions of the reasons why and the remedies can accomplish more than attacks depending upon illogical deductions from the facts.

* *

The following communication has been received from Secretary Chas. A. L. Reed, of the International Executive Commission, Pan American Medical Congress.

CINCINNATI, Nov. 5, 1898.

"MY DEAR SIR: I have the honor to announce that in April, 1898, I received from Dr. José Manuel de los Rios, Chairman of the Committee on Organization of the III Pan American Medical Congress, a request that, in consequence of the then existing rebellion in Venezuela, no definite arrangements be made at that time relative to the meeting of the Congress previously appointed to be held in Caracas, in December, 1899.

The following communication relative to the same subject is just at hand:

CARACAS, September 25, 1898.

DR. CHARLES A. L. REED, Secretary of the International Executive Commission, Cincinnati, Ohio.

DEAR SIR: After having sent my communication dated April last, I find it to be my duty to notify you that, although the considerations pointed out in it have already ended, our country has been scourged by small-pox which has taken up all our physicians' activities and time, depriving them of going into scientific works. And, as that state of mind of our people and government after such calamities as war and epidemic, would greatly interfere with the good success of our next meeting, I beg leave to tell you, in order you will convey it to the International Executive Committee, that our government and this commission would be grateful to have the meeting which was to take place in Caracas, in December, 1899, adjourned for one year later. I am, dear Doctor,

Yours respectfully,

THE PRESIDENT.

[Signed] DR. JOSÉ MANUEL DE LOS RIOS.

In accordance with the request of the Government of Venezuela, and of the Committee on Organization, the III Pan American Medical Congress is hereby postponed to meet in Caracas, in December, 1900.

For the International Executive Commission.

CHARLES A. L. REED,
SECRETARY."

AMONG THE PROFESSION.

The building of the Allentown Hospital, at 17th and Chew Streets, is progressing very satisfactorily. It is now under roof and it is hoped to have it ready for the reception of patients by the first of April, next.

Dr. M. B. Dill has sold his practice, at Perkasio, to Dr. G. M. Hubbell. Dr. Dill has located at North Wales.

Miss Anna M. Folkenson, daughter of Mrs. Catherine Folkenson, and Dr. E. W. Richards, both of South Easton, Pa., were married at 4 P.M., Nov. 26, 1898, at the home of the bride, No. 728 Berwick street. Rev. T. Calvin Stewart, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, officiated. Miss Nellie C. Folkenson, sister of the bride, was the maid of honor, Misses Mildred and Miriam Richards, sisters of the groom, were the bridesmaids, Margaret Clark was the flower girl, and Dr. F. T. Clark was the best man. The ushers were Ralph Stewart, Arthur Richards, and Ray Folkenson, of Easton, and S. E. Brasefield, of Stroudsburg.

The wedding march was played by Prof. H. T. Buckley, of Easton. The bride was given away by her brother, Harry Folkenson, of Cumberland, Md. The parlors were handsomely decorated with plants, ferns, and flowers. After the reception and wedding supper the couple left on their wedding trip.

Miss Eva Lentzy, daughter of Dr. J. B. Shaw, of the Delaware Water Gap, was married to Dewitt Clinton Supplee, on Nov. 29, at her home.

Dr. Ira A. Shimer, of Bethlehem, Assistant Surgeon, U. S. A., has been ordered to Santiago. Dr. Shimer was recently married to Miss Lillia Louise Danbrook, at Aurora, Ontario.

LOCAL NECROLOGY.

Henry A. Saylor, M.D. (Univ. of Penna.), of Weisenburg, Lehigh Co., died Nov. 29, 1898, aged 68. Elected Prothonotary of Lehigh County, in 1875.

Dr. Joseph E. Smith, of Yardley, died November 18th, 1898.

On November 2nd, while Dr. Smith was on his way to Doyles-

town, to attend the Jubilee Meeting of the Bucks County Medical Society, he attempted to stop a runaway horse at Yardley Station, and was knocked down and seriously injured. He never rallied from the shock. Dr. Smith graduated at the University of Pennsylvania, in 1857.

LITERATURE NOTES.

The *Philadelphia Medical Journal* has already received our commendation for good work done. It is now engaged in the laudable enterprise of concentration. A few weeks ago the *Atlantic Medical Weekly* was absorbed, and now it is the *Philadelphia Polyclinic*. The only regrettable feature is the dainty appetite of the *Journal*; there are hosts of journals we would rather lose than these. However, one stronger self-respecting medical journal can accomplish more than three strong ones.

We would again call the attention of our readers to the value of the *Literary Digest* to the man who desires to keep in touch with the world he lives in. This weekly synopsis of the world's opinion of the world's operations enables one to obtain a broadened view of the world's motives and the world's affairs. It is published by the Funk and Wagnall's Company, New York, at \$3.00 a year.

Dr. Albert Abrams, author of the "Antiseptic Club," has written a series of satirical sketches which abound in rich humor, and are pronounced his best work. They will appear in the *Medical Fortnightly*, beginning January 1st, under the head of "Scattered Leaves from a Physician's Diary."

REVIEWS.

THE OFFICE TREATMENT OF HEMORRHOIDS, FISTULA, ETC., WITHOUT OPERATION, TOGETHER WITH REMARKS ON DISEASES OF THE RECTUM, ETC., ETC. By CHAS. B. KELSEY, A.M., M.D. New York: E. R. Pelton.

Dr. Kelsey has grown to be one of the leading exponents in the United States, of what is now called "Orificial Surgery." He has had a large experience, has been a prolific writer, and, as a rule, he writes well. His latest little brochure, with the very long title, part of which is given above, gotten up very neatly and attractively, excited considerable interest. The little book has 58 pages of reading matter and it contains three clinical lectures evidently delivered by Dr. Kelsey to his class at the Post-graduate Medical School.

The first lecture is headed, "The Cure of Hemorrhoids, Fistula, Fissure, and Other Affections of the Rectum by Office Treatment without Operation." After stating that formerly only two methods of cure were known for hemorrhoids—(1) operation, and (2) injections—he dwells feelingly upon the dread patients usually have of operations and states that now, in *his office*, he cures this condition, as one is made to understand, without operation and by other means than injections. One is led to infer that the process is long, and very gradual, but that it is radical. Never a hint does the doctor give of the method itself, but there is a very strong hint to the effect that if any hearer or reader has a case of hemorrhoids or fissure of the anus, it would be well to send the case to Dr. Kelsey's office, where a man with gentle touch, skilful in manipulation, and supplied with all needful instruments is ready, willing, and knows just how to cure the case. If, however, the *medical man* wishes to know the methods employed, he must accompany the patient to the office when he will see that "the methods by which these results may be accomplished do not include any new surgical principle, but simply the application of modern methods employed more effectively and perhaps with greater ingenuity."

Speaking of fistula in ano, he instances Alligham's recommendation of dilatation for these conditions and gives an illustration by recounting the history of a case which, after several unsuccessful operations, was cured by Dr. Kelsey, by dilatation and packing with iodoform gauze. The ordinary method for curing fissures, namely, dilatation of the sphincter ani in anesthesia, he says, excites in his mind a "sense of the ludicrous" because of the disproportion between the disease and this method of cure. He says, "I always think of it as one does of killing a fly with a club." He admits that the dilatation method is "certain and speedy, while another plan of treatment may take two or three weeks"; he absolutely omits to mention the other plan of treatment, however. In the same vein, ulceration of the rectum is discussed. He mentions the use of new instruments to dilate, explore, and illuminate the rectum, and the facility of diagnosis these instruments procure. He says, "To use them at all is at first difficult; to see anything clearly with them is

much more difficult ; and to be able correctly to interpret what can be seen requires special skill."

As a published paper this lecture seems to admit of but one interpretation. As a sequel to a clinical lecture it might serve in the presence, and under the influence of the master, as a suggestion that operations are employed when it is not absolutely necessary to employ them and that in many cases of nervous women it is preferable to employ slow methods and milder means to accomplish a cure. To offer this lecture to the profession in the form of a published paper something more is necessary than statements of cure—the *plan* of treatment and the *methods employed* ought to have been given, so that other surgeons might have the benefit of them, by using them and comparing them with other methods. Arguments of this kind without facts to support them are valueless and monographs written as this one is too much like bidding for special work.

The second lecture is, "On the Relation between Diseases of the Rectum and Other Diseases in Both Sexes, but Especially in Women."

In this lecture the near relation of the rectum and the generative apparatus is made to serve, together with some instances, as arguments for the statement that a man who practises as an anal and rectal specialist ought to be able to recognize diseases and malpositions of contiguous organs, and the possible influence of these conditions on the state of the patient. Incidentally the argument is against a narrow specialist. This is good.

The third lecture is "On the Abuse of the Operation of Colostomy, or the Formation of an Artificial Anus."

This is an argument against indiscriminate use of colostomy in rectal strictures. It contains nothing particularly new nor anything original, and again has too much of suggestion that Dr. Kelsey does operations of extirpation of the rectum better than any one else—hence send your patient to Dr. Kelsey.

MANUAL OF DISEASES OF THE SKIN, WITH AN ANALYSIS OF 20,000 CONSECUTIVE CASES AND A FORMULARY. By L. DUNCAN BULKLEY, A.M., M.D., of New York. Fourth edition, revised and enlarged. New York : G. P. Putnam's Sons. pp. 362. Price, \$1.25.

This little book, while modestly called a "Student's Manual," can be read with profit by the traditionary busy practitioner ; *i. e.*,

the man, who, from lack of any sort, does not care to study any subject in its fullest details. Dr. Bulkley possesses several requisites for writing a book on dermatology; he is familiar with the literature, has had an extended clinical experience, possesses a command of language to express his thoughts clearly, and is practised in book-making.

This work first calls attention to the study of dermatology, then gives chapters, in succession, on the anatomy and physiology of the skin, the symptomatology, the etiology, and the nomenclature and classification. Chapter 6 gives an analysis of 20,000 cases of skin diseases, one half from private practice, the remainder from his hospital books, to give an idea of the relative frequency of the various diseases of the skin. Chapters 7 to 19 treat concisely of the various diseases, following the order of his classification. Chapter 20 treats of the important subject of "Diet and Hygiene in Diseases of the Skin;" chapter 21 on therapeutics, furnishes a valuable formulary. Two indices make the contents of the book easily accessible.

In the consideration of the individual diseases: first, is given a succinct description of the disease, then a discussion of its cause, helps for its diagnosis, its prognosis, and suggestions for its treatment. Due care seems to have been taken in giving more attention to the more frequently occurring diseases.

The imprint of the Putnams gives assurance of the careful and excellent mechanic preparation of the volume.

PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

[The management is always pleased to loan any of these reprints to any of the readers of the MAGAZINE. Please enclose postage in your letters requesting them.]

Aaron, Charles, D., M.D., Detroit, Mich. (1) Intestinal auto-intoxication. (2) Chronic catarrh of the stomach. (3) Stomach disturbances caused by hernia of the linea alba in the epigastrium. (4) Transillumination of the stomach with demonstration on the person. *Reprints.*

Ball, James Mores, M.D., St. Louis, Mo. A case of quinine amaurosis. *Reprint.*

Denison, Charles, A.M., M.D., Denver, Colo. Modern treatment of tuberculosis. *Reprint.*

Florida Health Notes, September, October, and November, 1898.

Houghton, E. M., Ph.C., M.D., Detroit, Mich. (1) Ergot aseptic. (2) The pharmacologic assay of the heart tonics. *Reprints.*

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